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to complete their deliveries to Jackson, Nelson & Co. in accordance with the order heretofore given them by Jackson, Nelson, &c

Very respy, Your obt Servt

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department

Montgomery, Ala. July 1st 1862.

Hon A. G. Jenkins, Silver-Run, Lauderdale.

My dear Sir,

Yours, to-day, in receipt of mine of the 26th ult. is read, and, in the pressure of official duties, duly, is duly answered. The subject of the Whiskey distilleries by a military order, which was issued by me on the 17th of March last, was not entirely to prevent the manufacture in the army, from unwholesome, and foreign it might be in my power to do so, while organizing a large number of new regiments for the service, but, principally, to save the grain in the State, from being diverted from the support & maintenance of the troops & the people. This latter ground is, perhaps, the only ground, upon which a justification of the order, in absence of Martial Law, could be based; the other being exclusively, a question belonging to the Legislative power. The order has had a happy effect, and should be rigidly enforced, to prevent the consumption of bread-stuffs by Distilleries; and shall, to this extent, be continued — at least, until the Legislature of the State re-assembles, and modifies the order. The suppression of Distilleries, however, and the consequent dearcity of Alcohol & Brandy, which are needed, in large quantities, in the Medical department of the Army, as well as by the Apothecaries & Druggists throughout the State, for the preparation of Medical Supplies, have been brought to my attention, recently, & in a manner to convince me of the propriety of, so-far, modifying the order, so as to permit the distillation of fruits — the very thing which you complain of. I am sorry to differ with you on this point, but the information derived from the Stand I occupy, satisfies me of the correctness of this Course. The Sale of the Spirits within ten Miles of any Military Camp, is strictly prohibited and you will see by the Order of the 17th of March.

Very respy, Your obt Servt

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department

Montgomery, Ala, July 1st 1862.

Messrs A. L. Johnson & Co. Selma,

Gentlemen; Some nine hundred Sacks of Salt, bought by the West Florence Agricultural & Manufacturing Co, from Mississippi, recently, were delivered, by him with Mr. A. W. Pettibone of your town, for sale & distribution, under my order. As you have, heretofore, been the Depositaries for the Salt, and our intercourse had been quite agreeable, and you had, so-far, kindly aided the State in many matters, I deem it due to you as well as myself, to say that the Deposit, by Judge Walker, was without instructions from me or the State, until after it had been made. In justification, he informed me that the Salt was in bad order, & as he presumed they would be, mostly, shipped in bags, that they could be removed, with more facility & less cost from the Petitioner's Warehouse, than from others. Upon this statement, I thought it best to allow the Deposit to remain, for sale and distribution, on the Petitioner's

You will see, by my "Salt Circular," in the newspapers "Advertiser," that Selma will be made a Place of deposit for Salt, on State account, and, if agreeable to you, I wish you to consent to act, as Agent of the State, in that behalf, on reasonable compensation as may be agreed upon. I will be allowed upon as favorable terms for selling, storage, labor, shipping, &c. [illegible] Agent [illegible]

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala: July 2d 1862.

Hon. J. W. Randolph, Secretary of War.

Sir:

Herewith I enclose you a petition, which I received to-day, and I concur in the opinion of the gentlemen who petition, that they should be supplied, if possible. From my own experience with Volunteer companies, I am sure that a few of the villainous, thieving, lazy, worthless characters, with some of the members of the company, I am satisfied that the complaints were not without foundation. The men belong to this State, & they, naturally, look to me for redress. The proceedings may not be in strict conformity with the army regulations, but they have no other course they can take, without aggravating the grievances they complain of. I should dislike, exceedingly, that any harm should come to the men, which might—and probably would happen if their complaints were referred to the Captains of the Company, and I would like the liberty of suggesting, that if possible, an enquiry should be instituted, which would not commit them.

Very Respectfully,
Your obedient Servant
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov. Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, June 28th 1862.

(Circular.) To the Judge of Probate of ——— County:

Sir:- The sea salt made by J. P. High, and Company, on the Reservation leased to them, will be set apart, and appropriated to the use of indigent families of Volunteers, from Alabama, in the Confederate Army. To enable the Executive to carry out this object, you are requested, after Consultation with your County Commissioners, to report to this Department the quantity of salt, which will, probably, be needed to supply the wants of such indigent families, in your County. To prevent too much Complication, the following Towns will be made places of Deposite in which Mobile- Demopolis- Montgomery- Selma- Tuscaloosa, & Talladega; and you will name the Town most convenient for delivery to your County. The salt will cost the State $1.25 per bushel at the works. It will be there sacked- or otherwise packed- for shipment to the point of delivery, and sold at prices to re-imburse to the State the cost- charges for packing- freight- and any other necessary outlay. The Cash must be promptly paid on delivery. Shipments will be made as rapidly as possible, and orders filled by the local Agents as fast as the supplies arrive. They will be instructed to deliver only to the Agent sent by the Commissioners' Court, who must file his written authority to pay for and receive the salt. As every County has a fund to aid in the support of indigent families of Volunteers, it is expected that a sufficient amount of such fund will be appropriated to meet this necessary want. Proper instructions will be given to the Local Agents for the disposition of the salt, and they will notify you when they will be ready to deliver for your County.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Salt-Circular. Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. June 30th 1862.

As many letters are received at this department, enquiring into the locality, and condition of the Salt-Deposits in the State, and the probable prospective supply, this Circular has been prepared to furnish and extend, as far as possible, the needful information. In the Counties of Cherokee and Washington, and in the Valleys near the Coosa & Tallapoosa rivers are found large quantities of brine, or salt-water, and the region embracing these localities

Saltsville, for a distance of thirty miles or more, within this District. Except in wars being made a reservation of Localities. The most of which are in Clarke Co. Mr. This County on the State Reservations, known as the Upper reservation, which covers 8 of the State. The two counties make a boundary line of ten miles square. The Upper reservation embraces three sections of Land; to-wit; 21-22-& 27, in township 1, range 1. E, and the Lower reservation only two Sections, to-wit; Sections 21 & 28, in township 1, range 2. E. The "lower salt reservation" have been leased by John Pugh Co, of Huntsville, under provisions of an act of the Gen'l Assembly. By the terms of the Act, they obtained a lease of ten years and 2 miles to aid in constructing the necessary works for making salt, and are entitled to a bounty from the State, of ten cents per bushel; on all they make, and are limited in the price for which they sell, a one dollar fifteen cents per bushel, at the works. This Company is now turning out one hundred bushels per day, and it is hoped that they may be able, soon to increase the quantity. All they make for sale has been secured for the State, by a Contract with the Company, but as it will be scarcely sufficient for the general demand, it will be set apart and reserved, for the purpose of supplying this necessary article, to the indigent families of Volunteers, from Alabama, in the Confederate service. Circular letters have been addressed to the Judges of Probate in the various Counties in the State, giving all proper instructions for the attainment of this desirable end. This salt will cost the State one dollar & twenty five cents, at the works, per bushel of fifty pounds, including the bonus of ten cents, paid by the state to the Lessees. The expenses of sacking, transportation, &c, will be added, and it will be sold to the County-Commissioners, for the use aforesaid, at such prices as will re-imburse the State. Should a larger supply, than needful for indigent families be ultimately be obtained, the Agents, at Points of sale & distribution, will be instructed to sell any surplus to families of Volunteers who may have means of payment. The Towns, where the salt will be deposited are Mobile - Demopolis - Tuscaloosa - Montgomery - Selma & Talladega. Deliveries will be made at these places, and not at the Salt-works of the Company, except upon a special order from the Governor. The "Upper reservation" of the State has not been leased to any person and both reservations are free to all the citizens of the State, who may go and make salt, for their own family use. The only conditions imposed are, that they must not interfere with parties located and at work, or get into the way of each other, or impede the operations of John P. Pugh Co, or any other persons, who may obtain a Lease from the State. Should responsible persons desire to make Salt for sale, a contract with them, for a lease and purchase of the salt, will be made on the same terms, as made with John P. Pugh & Co. Several Companies have already located on the Upper reservation, and are now making salt for home consumption, and other parties are making arrangements to do so. Besides the two State Reservations, there are a number of Localities, in the Tuscaloosa and Montgomery Counties, belonging to private citizens, on which salt is being made, in considerable quantities, yielding, at least two hundred bushels a day, in addition to what is made on the State Reservations. Should any enterprising men have engaged in the business and are making salt, as bounty for their own home-consumption, they will be encouraged in every proper way, so as to induce the production of salt, and the prices will be kept free to purchasers. Should enterprising, & patriotic citizens, of this State, and Confederate, desire to go into the manufacture of salt, on the Lands belonging to private citizens, they will be encouraged, by the Authorities of the State, and not be molested.

Governor to decide positively & speedily upon the subject, & shall write more fully to you & the Governor of Alabama upon the subject. Mr. A. L. Tyler has been appointed "Inspector of Government Salt Works" for the State. This gentleman has been recently engaged in boring wells for salt water, on the State reservations, & the necessary instructions will be issued to him to commence operations for the establishment of works, on State account & attention will be called to the encouragement for negro-laborers-provisions &c in the Act to grant Donations - and it is to be hoped that every possible aid & encouragement will be freely extended to him & the people of the State. His Post-Office address, for the present, is Montgomery, Ala. Various Reports & Advices induce the hope that Salt-Deposits may be found in Greene Co. and other localities, where salt may be made. A competent & scientific gentleman has been appointed to examine & report the facts.

From all the information received at this Department, and from personal examinations of the Salt-region on the Tombigbee, recently made by the Government, he is persuaded that Alabama possesses within her limits, sufficient & unfailing, & quickly, if fully developed, to furnish an abundant supply of Salt to the people of the State. Nor the least difficulty, however, in the process of Salt-making, is the manufacture of practical knowledge, as to the most rapid & economical modes of evaporating the water, & ridding it of its impurities. Information, on these points, is earnestly requested, for the benefit of parties engaged in the business. And as it will require the combined efforts of hundreds of operatives, to insure any thing like, even, a moderate supply of Salt for the State, an appeal is made to every citizen, who can, to engage in the work, and at the earliest possible day. The Troops will soon be laid by, and Farmers can go to work without much inconvenience. Let them do it, and not only make Salt for their own use, but to add to the Common Stock, for the benefit of their State. This is a plain Patriotic duty. If neglected - the Gulf States come upon us - deprived of this article of prime necessity, our Condition will be most lamentable. Let us not flatter ourselves that the State Authorities can, or that other persons will supply the demand. It is to be hoped, therefore, that all, who possibly can, will engage in the business.

(Signed,) J. M. Gill Shorter.
Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, July 4th 1862.

Col. J. Gorgas, Chief of Ordnance, Richmond, Va.

Sir: A few days since, I wrote you, requesting instructions in the "Shelby Coiled Gun-barrels" to deliver them for gun-carriages &c. to Messrs Dixon, Nelson & Co. who are manufacturing arms for this State. The Gentlemen has a contract, also with C. G. Sinclair of Talladega, Ala. for the manufacture of 2000 Rifles; and he, the latter, has a Contract with the "Shelby County Iron-works" for the Gun-barrels; &c. These Contracts, I am confident, are made, strictly to the engagements of this Company with you; and I am inclined to the opinion that the Company esteem your contract more remunerative, and, on this account, are indisposed to complete their deliveries, until forced the parties to apply to you for direct orders. Whether this is so or not, the importance of these Contracts to the State is so great, that I think it requisite to request you to issue instructions to the "Shelby County Iron-works" to deliver the Guns required by Mr C. G. Sinclair, Talladega, Ala. who also, to Mr Daniel McCallum, Contractor, &c, has a contract to make the 1000 Rifles for the State) in order that these Contracts may be completed. Very respectfully &c.

(Signed) J. M. Gill Shorter.

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Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, July 4th 1862.

to mrs Rebecca Dennis, Pres't
mrs Lucinda Todd, Sec'y
Ladies Aid Soc'y, dec'd of Antioch, Ladies' Aid Society, Coosa, Co. Ala.

Ladies, Your note of the 28th ult. from Talladega, was received, and acknowledged, by my private Secretary, who promised to send you a copy of the account presented against the State, by mrs Penelope Browning, and which was paid to her. I enclose you, herein, a correct copy of the account, & her receipt, showing the articles for which she received payment, to the amount of two hundred & forty one 15/100 Dollars, on the 28th May last. I hope Mrs Browning may be able, satisfactorily, to explain the transaction to your Society.

Very Resp'y Yr. obt Sert.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 7th 1862.

July 7. Maj. Gen'l Wm Kerr, Greensboro'.

Sir,

Brigadier Gen'l Jno H. Forney, commanding at Mobile, has made a requisition for more Negro-slaves to complete the batteries at Choctaw Bluff - on the Alabama River; and at Oven Bluff on the Tombigbee. Capt. Charles D. Lieber, Chief of Engineers, will pay 75 cents per day, for the laborers; and transportation & subsistence. The County of Greene has furnished - heretofore, but four slaves, and must, now furnish fifty. Twenty-five, from West Greene, must go down, by most convenient route, by Oven-Bluff on the Tombigbee; and twenty-five, from East Greene, to Choctaw Bluff on the Alabama. They should take axes, spades, hoes with them. The heavy work is pritty well over, and the hands are required to finish off the batteries, by dodging & proper drainage. They will not be detained, I suppose, over two or three weeks. I hope the good People of Greene, who have proved their Patriotic devotion in every way - will promptly respond to this reasonable call. Other Counties have, heretofore, been more heavily taxed for laborers, and the distribution is made as equitably as possible. & I hope you may be able to ship all the slaves without delay. They must be had, and, if they are not, voluntarily, contributed or hired, you are directed to press them with tools, and send them along, under a proper overseer, with provisions to last them to the batteries. As the early completion of these magnificent batteries is a matter of vital importance to the State, I hope therein that this requisition on Greene County will be voluntarily, & promptly, responded to.

Your active Energy is expected in the Execution of this Commission, & you will report progress, as early as practicable.

Resp'y Yr.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov'r of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. July 7th 1862

Brig. Gen'l E. D. Blandford Livingston Ala,

Sir, The magnificent battery - at Oven-Bluff is approaching a state of completion. The hands employed, from other Counties, which have done this heavy work, are relieved, and by order of Brig. Gen'l Forney, at Mobile, twenty-five is now called upon, for 30 days, to go down with axes, spades, hoes, to go down and finish-off the work. Address, to Overseer at the Bluff, to which principal portion of the completion. Any information to this Department will

not, from the Key, to obtaine Corn here or thereabouts. Means for the purchase, which will be detailed to accompanying them; and they must be hereby ordered enough to last until they reach the Colony. Capt: Pleasant D. Stevens, of the Quarter Department, will pay 75 cts per day for the use of the teams, & their transportation & subsistence, if needed. + The County of Russell has not been called upon— I believe— for laborers, on this line of Road, & hence I sure her Patriotic people are more than willing to do their part. I hope, therefore, that they will promptly respond to this Call, & forward the Negroes without delay; they must go! but if, contrary to expectation, they are not contributed or hired, you are directed to proceed immediately to press the number required, with the necessary implements, & forward them without delay, under charge of a competent person, to Owen Bluff, on the Tombigbee River, for the purposes stated.

You are requested to act with Energy, and report progress with as little delay as possible.

Respfly yrs.
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov^r of Ala-
Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. July 8th 1862.

Messrs Dickson, Nelson & Co. Rome, Geo.

Gent^n

I am, to-day, in receipt of yours of 5th inst, and have carefully read the Decree of War for rendering to the Commandant of Conscripts in the State of Georgia, for exemption of Superintendents & operatives in your establishment at Rome— as requested.

On the 18th of June, I sent you, by Express— and you directed, a further advance of $5000— on your Contract, but have not received notice of its reaching you.

Respfly yr obt Servt
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov^r of Ala.
Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. July 8th 1862.

Hon. G. W. Randolph— Sec^y of War; Richd^o

Sir: Some months since, I made Contracts, in behalf of the State of Alabama, for the manufacture of Muskets, with three parties, who are now engaged in the work— Viz— with Dickson, Nelson & Co, for— 5000— with L. L. Sturderant— for— 2000, and with Samuel Wallis for— 1000. They are all Citizens of Alabama, the last two named reside in Talladega County: Dickson, Nelson & Co. reside in that County— where their machinery was first planted. On the approach of the Enemy, they removed their Establishment to Rome, Geo. A letter from them, just rec^d, advises, that Maj. Dunwody— the Enrolling officer in Georgia, appointed to the division embracing Rome, is of opinion that under his instructions, he must enroll their men, in their Establishment. The Company have not yet completed, & have, until next Summer, to complete their Contract. I have to request that you will, forthwith, direct an order to the Commandant in Georgia, for exemption of the Superintendents and operatives, in the establishment of Messrs Dickson, Nelson, & Co., at Rome Georgia.

Also please address a similar order to the Commandant in Alabama, for exemption of the operatives employed in the shops of Mr. L. L. Sturderant, from Daniels Wallis of Talladega County, Alabama. Duplicates of each of which, I beg, may be enclosed to me.

Respfly yr obt Servt
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov^r of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala; July 8th 1862.

Hon. G. W. Randolph, Sec: of War, Richmond.

Sir, The innumerable complaints which have reached me, of the inattention to the necessary wants of sick and wounded Soldiers, by the Rail-Road Conductors throughout the entire line of travel in the Confederacy, must be accepted as my Apology for this Communication. Do not mistake me, of the solemn obligation we are under to the Soldier, who has left his dear ones at home, and gone with his life in his hand, to suffer - and die, if need be, for his Country. His health & physical comfort should be zealously guarded & promoted, by every means at Command of the Government. But the careless disregard of these, & the criminal omission to furnish the sick & wounded with any accommodation - whatever - beyond those allowed to the travelling Public, and even, in many instances the heartless neglect to supply even - Water upon the crowded Trains, are sins against humanity which call loudly for reform. The Rail-Road Companies are realizing immense fortunes, by their transportation of Troops and army supplies, and certainly, they should be held to a rigid accountability, in the discharge of every duty, which may be devolved by the Government, for the protection - and accommodation of those disabled in the service of the Country. This matter should receive the most earnest consideration of the War-Department, and the orders emanating therefrom, should provide, upon a broader Scale, for a reformation of the evils mentioned; and I feel, that, upon a matter of such deep importance — appealing - as it does - to the nations gratitude, I need only direct your attention to the subject.

Respy
Yr obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. Gov of Ala

## Proclamation.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. 5th July, 1862.

All Sheriffs, Deputy-Sheriffs, and Constables, through out the State, are, hereby, directed to apprehend Deserters from the Provisional Army, where-ever they may be found, & to deliver them to an Officer of such army, at the most convenient post or Station, or to lodge them in jail, & report their names, & regiments to Genl. J. P. Watson, Adj. & Insp. Genl. at Montgomery; and all jailers are directed to receive them.

Thirty dollars for all Deserters delivered to an officer, and fifteen for each Deserter lodged in jail; and the usual allowance for the support of Prisoners will be made by the Confederate States, but no allowances will be made for expenses of apprehension or transportation.

In witness whereof, I have, hereunto set my hand, and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed.

(Signed)
Jno Gill Shorter,
Governor of Alabama.

By the Governor,
(Signed) D. H. Bradley,
Secy of State.

[illegible] Montgomery, [illegible] July [illegible]

[illegible] Sir, I have to [illegible] herewith [illegible] for your consideration, [illegible] upon which [illegible] Officers [illegible] Mounted [illegible] Regiment, [illegible] Transfer [illegible] Company, [illegible] to-day [illegible] Secretary of War [illegible] Transfer [illegible] granted.

I am, Sir, Respectfully, Your obt. Servt. (Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter. Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 9th 1862

Hon. G. W. Randolph, Sec'y War, Richmond.

Sir, I herewith respectfully, submit for your consideration, the enclosed application from the Officers & Privates of a Mounted Alabama Company, belonging to the four Mississippi Regiment, and trust that it will not be inconsistent with the interests of the service, to allow the Transfer.

I need not add that, if the facts as stated in the application, as to the transfer of the Mississippi Volunteers, be correct, the refusal to grant the same favour to the Troops of Alabama — in the absence of any reason for the discrimination, could not fail to excite dis-satisfaction.

Very Respectfully, Your obedient Servt. (Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 10th 1862.

Mr H. M. Calloway, Summerville, Morgan Co.

Sir,

I have directed fifty Sacks of Salt to be shipped to Montevallo, to your care to be thence hauled to Morgan Co., and sold by you, on Sale of the State to the people of that County. You will sell at the price, to net the State ten cents per bushel, at Selma, after paying all charges of transportation &c. from that point, and expenses of Sale. The Sales will be made for Cash, in State or Confederate Currency, and in small quantities, first to Soldiers' families, who are without Salt, and then to others, who may be destitute. You will allocate to the families, and let them have Salt, in proportion to numbers — by packs, half-bushels, & bushels.

The great scarcity makes it necessary thus to distribute it in small quantities; and, in the distribution, you will estimate fifty pounds to the bushel, this being the Standard fixed by the Legislature. You will report the sales to Col. W. P. Rivers, Assistant Quarter master of Alabama, at Montgomery.

I hand you, herewith, Circulars explaining the Salt operations of the State. From these, the people of your County will see that they may be supplied, hereafter, by the State-Agents, at Selma, Talladega or Tuscaloosa, & do not need an encouragement to depredate, at those places.

Respectfully, Your obedient Servt. (Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 11th 1862.

Hon. John. A. Brooks, Mobile,

Dear Sir,

Judge Stone has shown me your letter of 5th inst. regretting your inability to attend to the matter, & has written Messrs Price and Chambers, as suggested by you, in hope they may furnish the hands without delay, for Choctaw Bluff. These Batteries are magnificent Works, & shall be armed, good guns and plenty of Ammunition, and it will be unfortunate now, that we have an opportunity to finish up the works, if our people falter - delay - and postpone the required labor, until it may be too late. Please stimulate the work.

Very Truly Yours.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 11th 1862.

Messrs Jas L. Price & John L. Chambers, Uniontown, Ala.

Gentlemen;

Brig. Gen. John A. Forney has called for 150 additional hands, to finish up the batteries at Choctaw & Cowan Bluffs. The work has been principally completed, dodging & drainage, and trimming off, remain to be done. The hands will handily be raised over two or three weeks. We have received good guns & plenty of Ammunition, and it will be unfortunate now, that we have an opportunity to finish up the works, if our people falter - delay - and postpone the required labor, until it may be too late. Please stimulate the work.

I have confidently relied upon your decision, & have thought proper to call upon you two gentlemen to raise them. Capt Chas A. Lyons, Chief of Engineers, dispatches that he will pay 75 cents per day for their services - and transportation. I have already issued the necessary orders, to raise the other 120 hands called-for, in other Counties. You will please forward the 30 from Perry - via Selma, and the Alabama River, to Choctaw Bluff, and send with them, axes, spades and hoes, and provisions to last them to the Works. I hope you can raise the force at once, by voluntary subscriptions - or hiring; if not, you are requested - and authorized to press them. The latter alternative I hope, may not be necessary. The importance of properly finishing up these magnificent works of defense, cannot be over estimated; & now is the time to do it, when it can be well done.

I have received good guns, & plenty of Ammunition; We have the troops; & now let our Patriotic People, who have the means, come forward immediately, and furnish the labor required to finish the Works. Your prompt attention is earnestly requested.

Respectfully yr. obt. Servt.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 11th 1862.

Hon. A. Martin, Chairman Committee of Vigilance, Montgomery, Ala.

Sir, I have the honor to enclose you a copy of the Report made to the Committee of Vigilance, by members of their body, to whom was referred a resolution directing the execution of Munford by order of the Court Martial. You will see by the evidence stated in their report, generally credited throughout the Country, who are combined, how, and their conclusions upon them, eminently justified by the facts. Fully concurring in these conclusions, I have deemed it proper to communicate the report to you, & to the Confederate States, that he has the liberty to pardon if they think proper. Please signify to me your action.

Respectfully yr. obt. Servt.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 11th 1862.

To His Excellency Jefferson Davis, President of C. S. A.

Sir,

I take the liberty of enclosing to you, the within Report, adopted by the "Committee of Vigilance of Montgomery Co." in this State, in relation to the Execution of Mumford, by order of Genl Butler!!

This unauthorized—and inhuman act, viewed in the light of the facts—as understood by the Country, calls loudly, for redress. I entertain no doubt that you will give the case that calm—but rigorous consideration, which its importance demands of a patriot & friends.

With undiminished confidence, I am, Respectfully,
Your Obt Servt.
(Signed) J. G. Gilchrist.

(Copy of Resolutions of Comm. of Vig. enclosed in the above.)

The Committee to whom was referred the Resolution in relation to the execution of Mumford, by order of General Butler, Report, that they have learned that the death of Mumford had already engaged the attention of our Government, but they are not informed—as to what action has been or will be taken by it. They have found some difficulty in ascertaining the facts in relation to Mumford's death, having had to rely on Newspaper-accounts. From these sources they are informed, that—while negotiations were pending, for the surrender of New Orleans, between the Mayor of the City, & Commodore Farragut the Commander of the Naval forces of the Enemy at that place, the Flag of the United States was hoisted upon one of the public buildings, and that Mumford—a private Citizen—hauled down that Flag, before the City was surrendered. After the surrender, and occupation of the City by Genl Butler, he caused Mumford to be arrested and hung, for that offense. Such an act of tyranny & cruelty is, in the opinion of the Committee, without parallel in the history of War. It is, however, one of a series of outrages amounting—almost to a System, which have been perpetrated by the Soldiers & officers of the United States; and is, entirely, in keeping with the tyranny, cruelty, & brutality shown by General Butler since his occupation of New Orleans. Your Committee hesitate not to denounce the Execution of Mumford, as they have been informed, Commodore Farragut characterized it—as murder: Neither this—nor any other of the acts of that General, has been disavowed by his Government, so far as we are informed, and it cannot be ignorant of his course of Conduct for its silence, is sanctions these acts of General Butler, and is responsible for them. Under these circumstances, it is the duty of the Government of the Confederate States to take some decided action in relation to these outrages. Our Citizens demand, & ought to have redress for the past & security against the perpetration of future outrages. Protection should be given by our Government to its citizens, and if it cannot afford protection otherwise, retaliation should be resorted to: and, if necessary, let the War become one of the Enemy have proclaimed, and the acts of some of its officers & have declared, a War of Extermination.

(Signed) A. Martin, Chairman
of Vigilance Committee,
of Montgomery County

W. J. Hudson,
Secretary.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 11th 1862.

Geo. W. Maines, Lt Col. Comm'dant Arsenals, Augusta, Geo.

Dear Sir, The original letter of June 12th, addressed by you, separately, to Col. Edmund Hamilton and myself, miscarried. We are now in possession of the copies mailed, 2) the June. Your anxiety to adhere, strictly, to the regulations of your department, is appreciated, & I regret the irregularities which seem to have occurred, in respect to the purchase of shot-guns and saddles, for Col. Hunter's Command. To satisfy you, however, that the error occurred in the order given, I am requested by Col. Hamilton, to enclose the original paper furnished Col. Hunter. His paper was before me, when I wrote you on the 10th of June; & will explain that letter more fully. Of course, if the order was irregular, Col. Hunter, who acted under it, not doubting its validity for a moment, ought not to be prejudiced. The character of all the parties here, in any way, connected with the matter, forbids any other idea, but stern Integrity & Patriotism; & I doubt not it will be your pleasure, to send an Agent over, at once, with funds to adjust the case. My information is, that not more than 25 or 30 Saddles; nor more than 250 Guns—if so many, have been purchased.

Very respy, Your obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. Gov. of Alabama

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala: July 12th 1862.

Mr John Tarney, Gadsden, Ala.

Dear Sir; Your letter of 7th inst. received & contents noted. On the 11th of June, a letter was addressed, from this Department to Hon. A. W. Hooper, my aid de camp, to the Hon. Reuben Estes, of Lebanon, De-Kalb Co. enclosing an order on L. A. Pettibone of Selma, for fifty stands Arms, with instructions for its sale & distribution among the People of DeKalb Co.

I hope, by this time, the Arms have been removed, & the people are getting the benefit of it. If such is not the fact, the matter should be attended to. I have no letter from Judge Estes, since the order was sent. Please enquire & notify me, when he received it.

Respy, Your obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 12th 1862.

N. O. Graves, Assistant Adjutant Gen'l, Mich.

Sir: I have to acknowledge the rec't of yours, of the 30th ult. requesting me to assign to the Regiment commanded by Col. D. C. Cathcart, some other number than "29". It will be proper to be known as the 49th, & otherwise, the numbers of every Regiment, from 30 to 48, inclusive, will have to be changed. In this connection, I would bring to the notice of the Adjt. Insp. Gen. that none of the Regiments from this State, has not been numbered. Of these, either the one commanded by Col. A. A. Hughes—most of whom were taken at Fort Donelson; or that of Col. D. W. Allen now at Richmond, called the attention of Gen. Cooper to this, in my letter of 29th of May last, to which I beg leave to refer. I think it is its number should be "50"

There are also Regiments, which are not mentioned, either in the list of Regiments, dated, referred to, & which, I have no doubt, have been disbanded.

Very Respy, Your obt Servt.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. July 14th 1862.

A. R. Goldthwaite, Esq. Atty Genl.

Dear Sir, On the 11th inst. I addressed a letter to Genl. H. L. Price, in which I enclosed Mr. Chambliss's telegraphed me yesterday, in these words "It is impossible for me to leave, please appoint Col. Pickens immediately, instead." Now, my dear Sir, allow me to request you to accept the commission, in case Mr. Chambliss declines. This matter, already, been too long delayed. Still of vital importance to complete these batteries at an early day, Mont Vernon must be, and every thing got ready for action, in case of necessity. Last winter and in the early Spring when it was impossible to obtain them for river-defence, the river counties were clamorous for batteries, now we have guns-ammunition and men, there is a disposition to evade a few hundred hands to construct the batteries. If you could take hold of this matter with Col Price, you can send-down the men he may have called-for, from the Warrior region, in Perry, very quickly, and they, you to do &c. In addition to these, I have ordered hourly from Dallas-25 from East-Greene, to Choctaw Bluff, 75 in all. I have also ordered 25 from West Greene, & 50 from Sumpter, to Oven-Bluff. These fresh hands ought to finish the work, in two or three weeks.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) John Gill Shorter. Gov of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. July 14th, 1862.

Hon. G. W. Randolph, Sec'y of War.

Sir; Capt. W. M. Hames commanded a Company in the Seventh Regiment Ala. Volunteers. He obtained permission to convert his Company into a Cavalry Company. After the expiration of the twelve months, for which they were originally enlisted, and after the retirement of our Army from Kentucky, the Company was furloughed, and sent home to this State, to procure horses, with orders to report to the General-Commanding at Mobile, by the 20th inst. The Company is attached, and desires to be transferred to Col. J. T. Morgan's regiment of Partisan Rangers. Col. Morgan's Regiment is one, the organization of which, I am anxious to encourage, because I think it will be one of great efficiency & usefulness. I therefore, respectfully, suggest that the transfer be allowed, both, as a means of inducing the Company to extend its term of service, and promoting the organization of Col. Morgan's Regiment. I am &c &c.

Very Respy, Yr. obt. Servt.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter. Gov of Ala.

Executive Department.
Montgomery, Ala. July 14th 1862.

Brigadier Gen'l Gonth Forney, Sir, Capt W. M. Hames commanded a Company in the 2d Regiment Ala. Volunteers. This Company was originally commanded by Capt E. R. Dunney, who left the Army before the expiration of the term of service for which he was enlisted, & procured from the Secretary of War authority to change the Company into a Cavalry Company. After the expiration of the 12 months, for which the Troops originally enlisted, and after the retirement of our Army from Kentucky, the Company was furloughed, and sent home to this State to procure their horses, with orders to report to the Gen'l Commanding at Mobile. The Company desires to be transferred to Col. John T. Morgan's regiment of Partisan Rangers. Col Morgan's regiment is one, the organization of which, I am anxious to encourage, because I think it will be one of great efficiency, & usefulness. Therefore, respectfully suggest, that you can be so kind as, should there be the transfer of the Company, to extend its term of service for twelve months, more or less, as may be necessary to effect the desired object. I am &c &c.

Very Resp'y Yr. obt. Servt. (Signed) John Gill Shorter. Gov of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala., July 15th 1862.

To the County Commissioners of Marengo Co. Gentlemen: Since the order of Sept. of Nov. last, to the Comptroller, to draw his warrant in favor of the Judge of Probate of your County, for the sum of $2492 50/100 for the relief of indigent families of soldiers, I have received information that the Comptroller has drawn his warrant for the amount, and placed it in the hands of the Judge of Probate of Marengo Co. for distribution. I am informed that the Judge has distributed a portion of the money, but that there is a large amount still in his hands undistributed. I am also informed that there are many families in your County entitled to relief, who have not received any portion of the money. I therefore request that you will call on the Judge of Probate, and ascertain the amount in his hands undistributed, and the number of families entitled to relief, and the amount necessary to relieve them, and report to me, at your earliest convenience. Very respectfully, your obt. Servt. (Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter, Governor of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala., July 15th 1862.

Gen'l S. B. Rayburn, Chunteville, Madison Co. Ala. Your letter of the 7th inst. by Lieut. Smith, is before me, and I have to express my sympathies in behalf of the suffering families of our brave soldiers in your County. I sincerely hope, however, that they may be partially alleviated by the steps taken for their benefit. Also, in relation to the Comptroller's draft in favor of Marshall Co. for $1056 13/100, in favor of Marshall Co. and the Comptroller had sent his warrant on the County Treasurer of Marengo, to pay the amount to the Judge of Probate of your County. The balance of $3.62 1/2 in the State Treasury, to the credit of the County, and the Judge of Probate can draw his warrant on the Comptroller for the money. Gen. Greene informs me that he has sent the Judge of Probate a form of the warrant to be used for this purpose.

You can pay over the money received from the sale of salt, furnished your County, to the Judge of Probate, and send his warrant on the Comptroller, for the amount, he may draw for the amount of the sales.

Orders, to-day, ordered 20 sacks shipped from here, to the care of Gen. Greene at Decatur, to be forwarded by steam to the Indigent families of the State, in your County, for the sale of Marengo County. I learn, a portion of the consignment of salt, ordered to Demopolis, has been detained at Selma, for want of transportation. I have to request you to learn the cause of the detention, and report to me. Should the salt not arrive at Demopolis, soon, I suggest that you write to Roger Shorter, Esq. at Selma,

Executive Department
Montgomery Ala. July 16th 1862.

Medical Board Mobile Ala.

Gentlemen; I have received the
subjoined Letter from Sheriff Pickett, to which you, immediately, will attend.
I doubt not, that your decision will be entirely satisfactory to the Judge
to Judge Hellums here, & Sheriff Pickett, for the exemption similar
to those in his County. I desire from you prompt action, and a report with him,
as it is deemed important, that the Sheriff should be relieved
by Law, & subject to his order. You will also keep an account of the
to the proper Department of the Volunteer Militia, under your
Regiment to Genl L. H. Haughburn, Quartermaster, Mobile, & the Pay Dept.
is intended for, & when & how the County Commissioners, in that County
to have been written to on the subject. You will pay freight & charges
to the Department of the Militia, & enclose to Genl Haughburn, a State
ment from according to be furnished by him to the County Commissioners
of Jackson, who are instructed to make the Salt not the State ten cents
per pound at Selma. You will set apart 30 sacks, for the indi-
gent families of Soldiers in Bibb County, and inform the Judge of
Probate of that County of the fact, and the price of ten cents per lb
in Selma, when he can pay the money, on receipt of the Salt. I will
write you again, at Commencement.

Very respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, July 16th 1862.

D. Hamilton, Esq. Mobile; Dear Sir, Your favours of 25th June & 13th inst.
were duly rec'd. I owe you an apology for not replying at an earlier date
to the former. The contents were not over-looked — on the contrary the
letter was read with interest & filed for a reply, which was delayed by
unavoidable causes.

I approve your suggestions as to further provisions of fortifica-
tions for the defense of Mobile Harbor, and, also, for the construction
of one or more iron-clad Rams, as recommended by Lieut. Johnston;
and I shall, at an early day, forward to the Sec'y of War, a com-
munication on the subject, & shall take the liberty to enclose copies ex-
tracts from your letter of 28th June, and, also, a copy of the letter from
Lieut. Johnston, to you.

There can be no question as to the correctness of the principle of
settlement proposed by the Mobile Commissioners for the Harbor defences &
the construction of the Rams. Having drawn $100.000 from the State
Treasury, it will, doubtless, be the pleasure of the Commissioners, to
furnish a statement, in form, of the dates & amounts, received, on the
one hand, and of the expenditures, with appropriate vouchers on
the other. On being reported to this office, it will be referred to the
Comptroller, for examination and approval, who will certify his action
in the premises. With his certificate as to the expenditure of the
State appropriation, drawn will in such form as may be, may prefer, the
Commissioners can proceed to adjust their accounts with the Confederate
authorities. Lastly — speaking in behalf of the Commissioners —
"we are happy, in the belief, that in the management of this entire
matter, good discretion, in all the steps we have taken" will
be emphatically true, & in so saying, that it will meet fortune &
for the State, that the estimate of patriotic gentlemen, composing the Com-
mission, have given their time & energies to the prosecution of this im-
portant work. To this end must be attributed the framework of the
project, & the successful completion. When we commenced, we were
advised, & very many now, hope fully repose, upon the completion,
that it would be commenced & finished by the Confederate, as well as
State

Sirs of the Enemy. (Read in the inclosed papers, with highly satisfactory, the communications made to the citizens of Alabama, for contributions in behalf of our Sick & wounded Soldiers at Richmond. It cannot fail to have a most happy effect, if published in the different papers, so as to reach the Popular heart; and the Government should forward copies to the Press, in the most populous towns, with a request for republication. Money must be one of the indispensable provisions, which had, already, been made by the State Legislature made an appropriation, at its last Session, of $50.000. for this purpose. Out of this fund, large contributions & Clothings have been secured in Richmond, and the general superintendence of the same has been, from its under the immediate direction of Hon A. P. Hopkins and his benevolent Lady. Their drafts upon the Treasury have been promptly met, as well as requisitions for supplies of every kind & names. Large quantities of supplies purchased here, by the Quarter-master's department, contributed from different portions of the State, have been forwarded from time-to-time. And still they are needed, in larger quantities, Nurses are needed, in greater numbers: All these are needed more than money. Of the $50.000 appropriation, there remains, yet, a balance in the treasury, of $ 10.000 subject to draft. In addition to the above-mentioned remittances, bedding, sheets, pillow-cases, cotton-shirts, drawers &c have been forwarded, from time-to-time, as called for by Mrs Hopkins. As articles of this description are wasting, continued additions to the supply are necessary; and the efforts of your Committee should be directed, mainly, to gathering up all these articles, so essential to the wants of the sick & disabled Soldier. I will, both personally, & officially, co-operate most cheerfully, in this needful undertaking.

Very resp'y, your obt Serv't.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter Gov' of Ala.

Executive Department,

Montgomery, Ala; July 16th 1862.

Dr L. C. Garland, Pres't Univ. Ala. Sir. I am, to-day, in receipt of your note of 14th inst, and in reply, must express my regret that I cannot compliment your discretion. Flour is not a commodity of such pressing need as salt, and so is well understood, that consignments of salt to dispensaries are to meet the daily wants of the people, discriminating, where there is a difference, in favor of needy families of Soldiers. And the State an abundant supply, there would be no difficulty in the way of meeting your views, but with the scanty supply now on hand, and which cannot be soon increased, it is believed that from the general benefit distributions, upon the plan adopted in every other case of deposite and appropriation under the suggestions made by your board, efforts such ground for Complaint, and, as a matter of Policy, would, in my judgement work unfavorably for the University.

Respect to receive another Shipment of salt for Tuscaloosa, at an early day.

Very Respectfully,

Your obedient Servant

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Gov' of Ala.

Some receipts & payments
Mountgomery, Ala; July 16th 1862

Hon. Wm. Smith, Esq. Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.

Sir, I have received from the State Treasurer, a warrant for $1,000, in favor of Gen. Jno. Gill Shorter, for the purpose of paying the transportation of troops, from Montgomery to Pensacola, and return, and for other purposes connected with the public service. I have the honor to request that you will cause the amount of said warrant to be placed to the credit of the State of Alabama, on the books of the War Department.

Very respectfully, Your obt. Servt.
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala; July 16th 1862.

Hon. W. H. Williams, Opelika, Ala.

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your kind favor of yesterday, and am quite surprised to hear that it is currently reported in Tuskegee, &c. that, by my instructions, my dresser has planted a full crop of cotton the present year. You add that my friends, Mr. Winston and yourself, did not hesitate to contradict this report. I thank you both, for thus vindicating me from a charge, not merely, of official integrity, but my personal claim to the confidence and regard of my neighbors. How such a report could have originated, or why any person, who knows me and the opinions which I have, and which I have urged, in official & private intercourse, should have repeated it, I am at a loss to divine. It is a base fabrication. Not sixty hundred acres of my plantation were planted in cotton, the past year. Early in the Spring of this year, I wrote my overseer to plant every field & the corners of the fences in provision crops, and not an acre of cotton. Before the letter reached, mailed & received one from him, that the freshet in the Alabama river had flooded my cotton gin, & the cotton seed which was stored in it, and that he desired to keep over for future planting. I then called a Post Script to my letter, as a precautionary measure, directing my overseer, to plant not more than fifty acres in cotton, in order to secure seed for future use. He has informed me that my instructions were obeyed. Thanking you for your letter, I am very truly,

Yours, (signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

P. S. The above letter is subject to your disposal, in any manner, you may deem proper to use it. If you prefer any other direction, I respectfully request it be returned to me. &c &c

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, July 15th 1862

Capt. Jno Starke, Co. K 15th Ala. Regt, Saltillo, Miss.

My dear Sir, Your letter of the 10th inst, was received yesterday. Several days ago, at the request of your brother Wallace, I wrote an urgent letter to the Secretary of War, requesting your discharge from the Army, that you might return home, and enter upon your duties as Probate Judge. I will write him again, in error, and protest, in the name of the people of Coffee Co, against Gen. Bragg's dis-approval of your resignation in the Army - and the ground of dis-approval. Gen. Bragg's views on this matter are erroneous, and will be over-ruled. You may rest assured that I will grant your every possible indulgence in my power. Hoping that you may soon be relieved, and return home, in good health, to serve the State in the new & honorable position to which you have been Elected, I remain, very sincerely, your friend.

(Signed) John Gill Shorter. Gov of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, July 16th 1862.

Brig Gen Jno H. Forney, Head-Quarters, Mobile Sir:
Your letter of the 12th inst. calling my attention to a communication received from Dr. L. La Garland, Pres't of the University of Alabama, and, also to the General desire of the Citizens of Tuscaloosa, to be relieved of the order of Capt. Gristwold, U.S. Officer of Street Police, placing the town under Martial Law, to which communication, I have not had the pleasure to receive a reply. To-day I am in receipt of a letter of the 12th inst. from a distinguished Citizen of the State, residing in Tuscaloosa, in which he says, "since the removal of Federal prisoners from here, two months ago, we have, at no time, had over 12 prisoners; for the last five weeks only two; now, but one! On account of these prisoners, the U.S.A. has kept one full Company of Volunteers - one Quarter-master & his clerk - one Commissary & (part of the time) Assistant; and two or three Employees and Servants; a Provost Marshal & his clerks & Employees; and a Surgeon of the Post. Our people are getting very tired of the state of things referred to." You will allow me to say, that the draft made upon the Country Contiguous to Tuscaloosa, for the supplies to the large number of Prisoners, who have been there confined, and also, for the Comforts of our Volunteer forces, have been severely felt by the Citizens of Tuscaloosa. They have submitted, cheerfully, to all the inconveniences imposed by their position, but now expect that the rigors of Martial Law will be relayed, and that the Town will be relieved from the Sections of Military Officers, where Continued operations, at that point, can no longer avail the Government. Another Regiment of State troops, will shortly be organized at or near Tuscaloosa, & now ordered to the Centre of the State. I am not informed, as to the particular Volunteer Company, destined there as a guard, or the services which are to be exacted of it, but would suggest that it might be needed, in aid of the Conscript Enrolling Officers, in the Counties of Jefferson & Shelby, where, unfortunately, there is some disaffection, among certain ill-informed & misled men. Of retained for this purpose? — Strength & Character. Company would be far more efficient — it should be recruited to some (one) hundred men, for the mountainous, & more Disaffected

Respectfully &c
(Signed) John Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala

Executive Department
Spartanburg, S.C. May 17th 1862.

Hon. H. W. Brandeth, Secretary of State, Richmond, Virginia.

Sir; I have the honor to enclose herewith, copy of a letter received at this Department from Capt. J. McMaster, Co. A, 18th Regiment S.C.V. dated Head Quarters Regiment, Camp Gregg, near Pocotaligo, May 14th, 1862, and to respectfully state that I have declined to accede to the request of Capt. McMaster, having received Capt. McMaster's letter since receiving the letter addressed to the people of Coffee County, to cause an election to be held in said County, for the purpose of electing a Captain in the place of Capt. McMaster, resigned.

I felt it due to the people of Coffee County, to cause an election to be held, that the expression of their will - of the choice they should be respectfully by the authorities, should thus be allowed to have the weight of their choice, in selecting a situation as the one to which Lieutenants were elected. This is not every man, who is fitted, by nature and Education, for the position to which Capt. Starke has been elected, and the position taken by Gen. Gragg, in his Endorsement, that "the citizens generally of citizens in the County, who can fill these offices acceptably, is clearly untenable, and upon our Experience will, at once, suggest itself, if by any possibility, under favorable circumstances, the observation may be correct, yet the people, in the expression of their views, have declared the contrary. To discharge the duties of this office properly, & for the advantage of the citizens of the County and of the State, requires intelligence, ability, and business qualifications on the part of the incumbent, which are not so frequently combined, as a cursory observation would suppose.

The law has devolved upon these officers, extensive duties, in addition to the ordinary routine, which are important not only to the Civil Administration, but, indirectly, at least, to the efficiency of our Army. The care of protecting for the wants of Soldiers' families is now a part of their duties, & it is also important, in this respect, that industry, intelligence and Administrative talent should characterize those officers. This view seems to have been the one taken by the citizens of Coffee County, in their election of Capt. Starke, who has been a resident Lawyer among them for some years, a resident Lawyer among them.

If it should be feared by you, that this would be a precedent which would operate unfavorably for the future; allow me to suggest that the precedent of accepting resignations of such officers has been already established, and this has, or at least, have been allowed to resign.

I therefore, ask your favorable consideration of this application, and that he may be allowed to resume the position, in which he had been chosen by the people.

As stated in my letter of Yesterday, Capt. Starke commissioned by this State, as Judge of Probate of this County, according to the Election.

Very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) Wm. Gill Wright,

Governor & Commander in Chief.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, July 17th 62.

Colo. J. Gadsden, Engr. Mobile, Ala.

Sir, Your letter of June 20th was duly received, and my return from Mobile, or its receipt would have been sooner acknowledged. Having no official of the proper qualifications to determine upon the practicability of the improvements in this Department, by your suggestions I forwarded to Capt. Charles D. Pierce, C.S.A. Chief of Engineers, Mobile, with a request, that he would examine them. Capt. is in charge of the construction of the river and bay defences at Mobile and vicinity, of great skill in his profession, and will not hesitate to adopt such improvements as will, reasonably, promise success.

Very respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter. Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, July 17th 1862.

G. J. Whitcomb, Esq. attached, &c.

Sir, In consequence of your plan for floating batteries, and the accompanying letter of 8th June, having been misplaced, during my absence at Mobile, I have failed to reply. I have enclosed your plan & letter to Capt. Charles D. Pierce, Chief of Engineers, in charge of Construction of defences at Mobile, with the request that he will give them that scientific, practical examination, which the State Authorities cannot bestow upon them. Capt. Pierce is an officer of great skill, & accomplishment in his profession, & do not doubt his giving a careful examination of your plans, & his decided opinion of it, if it promises success.

Very respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, July 17th 1862.

Capt. Chas. D. Pierce, Chief of Engineers, Mobile.

Sir, I enclosed herewith, you will find a drawing of a floating battery, planned by citizens of Atlanta, Geo. with letter descriptive of the plans, and, also, a letter from Mr. J. J. Trammell, Esq. Montgomery, &c. &c. with recommendation of models, sent by the former, which have been left in this Department. These materials properly belong to your Department, & you can readily determine upon their merits, and their adaptability to harbor or River-defence. Referring them, to your discretion & judgement, I am, very respectfully, Your ob't Serv't.

(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 17th 1862.

Hon. J. P. Benjamin, Sec'y of War, Richmond.

Sir, I herewith, beg leave to enclose copy of letter from Lieut. Johnston, to Gov. Moore, of Mobile, together with extract of letter from Mr. H. to both of which, I ask your particular attention. The part of correspondence, that heavy armament will be made by the Enemy - with their command, Fort, or Mobile - is not to be taken for granted as Mobile & Gov. Moore, have done much, & will do more, than any other two men in the State, in bringing the defences of Mobile, & Bay, to their present state of efficiency, and I feel sure that Gov. Moore will be entitled to much credit for the energy and skill, he has exhibited, in the discharge of the duties which have been assigned to him; but with all this, Mobile is far from secure & I am satisfied, that the Enemy, with all the

Forts Morgan & Gaines, and certainly the Harbour & Shipping of Mobile, which
lie at present the Key, will be open & accessible to the Blockading Vessels by
them, must be dismantled by the Inevitable expenditure which this
State, in case of the Enemy's being in possession of them. The Guns &
Ammunition, Stores & Provisions, now in the Forts, will be a
Self-Support of any Commander, and this State will give
the Enemy the Trade of a Nation, extending from the Interior Country
a Ready-Supplied & fertile Sea-Region, certainly of our Friendly
or Neutral Powers, one Foundries & Salines, and a Plentiful Resource
of Iron & Coal, in this Vicinity.

Struck in this respect, I would humbly crave consideration the Sug-
gestion in the Letter and Extract enclosed: With our Experience
of Mobile, there would be but little difficulty in supplying the
Fort from one or two Boats, & the Gun-Boats recommended
by Lieut. Johnston, as well as for the Floating Batteries, suggested
by Mr. Hamilton. Both could be used, in defending the Entrance
to the Bay, and the Aid of the Forts: and with the Batteries now con-
structing at Selma, would render the Security of Mobile as large
against the Depredation, from the Gun-Boats, as can be obtained, with
Batteries and Forts can be completed from the unexpended Bal-
ance of Twelve Hundred Thousand Dollars, made, for this General
Object, at the last Session of Congress.

I do not deem it necessary to enlarge on this Subject. The Experience
of New Orleans should be enough to satisfy us, that any Penditure of Six
or Ten times the Amount required should not be wanting if necessary
to make Mobile impregnable.

Should the Views referred to and expressed receive a favourable con-
sideration, at your Department, I trust that no time will be lost in
putting them into Execution. Every Moment is precious. In the Hope
of an Early Reply, I remain Dear Sir, Your obt. Servt.

(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. July 18th 1862.

To his Excellency
Jefferson Davis,
President of the C.S. States.

Sir, Sorry that circumstances, in receipt of a letter from Capt. Jas. M.
Starke, Co. A. 15th Regt Ala. Volunteers, a Rebellion, mutiny & Desertion, dete-
ting many officers in behalf of a private of his Co. Who was tried by Court-Martial,
tried-Convicted & sentenced to be Shot, by Court-Martial; the Sentence
upon change of circumstances, one officer, or using profanity to an officer, and
refusing to obey his orders. Capt. Starke informs me that the sentence has
been commuted for your consideration, and also a petition from officers of
his Regiment, for the Exercise of Executive clemency.

Though unaware of the testimony, & the particular Specifications, under
which, the intoxicated man has been convicted; my knowledge of the high
& gallant character of Capt. Starke, induces me, most readily to comply
with his request, and to ask of your Excellency, that you will give due
possible weight to the appeal for mercy.

Often, how painful, oftentimes, is the discharge of duty, and the great im-
portance of enforcing obedience to military discipline, and the great necessity
of transacting efficiency in the Army: Yet, at the same time, mercy
should be allowed for the Natural character of our enemies, when the
private feels himself the Social Equal of the officer; & believe, often-
times, the relative Positions could be corrected, without detriment
to the Service.

Struck, too, by the Fact, that Capt. Starke's Company was raised, & or-
ganized & Forts built, that it fell after the Command was transferred from
Gen. Bragg to Gen. Forney, & that the Company was [illegible]

I think, I ought not lose in mind, the fact, that a case of desertion of a State is imposed upon them. The stern execution of a military law, in such cases, upon the Private, fails in the accomplishment of the end which should be sought — respectful observance of the law, and cheerful obedience to the requirements, and often leads to dissatisfaction — demoralization, & serious retaliation.

I cannot say, this ought to be the case, in this instance, for I have not the facts nor the testimony before me; and such facts, if existing, would, probably, not appear in the proceedings of the Court, but would not be laid before you, for determination, in connection with the finding of the Court; but they would be reported to the Home of the Condemned, to mingle, with the griefs of the bereaved, and the thoughts of revenge against the accuser, and dislike & hatred of the service, and the Constituted Authorities.

But Captain Starke, in his hurried letter to me, mentions one circumstance, which, it seems to me, should invite careful consideration. He states that but one witness testified, positively, to the truth of the charge against the accused; and that the evidence for the Prisoner contradicted that, for the prosecution, in important particulars. Our every-day experience convinces us how liable we are to be deceived in our memory of uttered words, and if that memory stand contradicted in other important particulars, we should feel inclined to doubt it, in reference to the main fact, upon which an important issue turns, especially when that issue is life or Death.

Captain Starke, (himself severely wounded at Shiloh) states that Trammell conducted, upon that memorable field, as a brave and gallant, that he was then, badly wounded & that he is now very low, with Typhoid fever. I respectfully submit to your Excellency, that something may be forgiven to the rash or forgetful Conduct of brave & gallant men, when the fault does not spring from malignancy, or evil heart.

With the evidence before you, I do not doubt, that you will act with that tempering of justice with Mercy, which so well becomes your high Station.

I have the honor to be
Your obt Servt
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 19th 1862

Hon. G. W. Randolph, Secretary of War, Richmond, Va. I respectfully refer to you a confidential, the enclosed letter from Hon. Wm. Mills a citizen of Washington County in this State; in relation to the transfer of his two sons — Wm. R. Mills, & Col. R. Mills, from Capt Fair Cloth's (Co (C) 13th Regiment of Alabama Volunteers, Commanded by Col Pritchard, now near Richmond. It appears from the inclosed letter, that his sons volunteered on the 14th May 1861, for 12 months, and, upon the expiration of their term of service, are retained, under the Conscript act, in a Mississippi organization, against their natural desire to take service with an Alabama Co. Capt Mills' Cavalry Co. As these men are involuntarily detained in the Co. in which they now are, & their Capt. refuses their transfer, it seems to me that their request is reasonable, and that in the case calling for your interposition. Your favorable consideration will be gratefully received by Your obt Servt

(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Ala. July 19

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, July 19th, 1862.

Genl. Samuel Cooper, Richmond, Va. Dear Sir, I have this moment received information that Gunboats are about to ascend the Alabama River to aid Genl. Farragut in his efforts to take Mobile. Should you not have already given orders to Com. Hollins to withdraw his fleet from the Mississippi, I respectfully suggest that it be done without delay. Every hour is dangerous. Should Mobile fall, and Genl. Farragut's mortar fleet be permitted to ascend the Alabama River, the Mississippi to Mobile Bay. Great God! what a sacrifice of men and treasure will be required to recover what we abandon from fear of present loss, while they did not, and could not, have more than the value of mere temporary inconvenience, when everything they esteem of priceless value is at stake? Any delay in sending troops to head off the small number of Yankees now on their way to Mobile, may result in the capture of that City. Respectfully, Yours.

(Signed) John Gill Shorter. Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, July 19th, 1862.

J. P. Johnson, Esq. Selma, Ala. Dear Sir, Your letter of the 16th inst, and thanks you for your prompt acceptance of the commission, tendered in connection with Col. Price, this day issued, from the Governor's office, for the purpose of procuring arms for the defence of the State, you may be able to get them immediately. The Enemy's Gun-Boats are ascending the Mississippi, and the Mortar-fleet from the mouth of the Mississippi is reported on its way to Mobile. We do not know at what time it may be attacked. Respectfully, Yours,

(Signed) John Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, July, 19th, 1862.

Brigadier Gen. C. J. Sturdivant, Livingston, Ala. Sir, I am in receipt of your letter of the 12th inst, and have to express my regret at the indifference & lukewarmness of many of our people, in coming forward to meet requisitions of the Government so vitally necessary to their own protection & security. The great danger to our cause, now, is that apathy produced by four years, and our over-confidence that we have not much, more, to do, but to wait for the final independence of the Confederacy. Never was there a greater error, or one more fatal! Why is it, that during the freshets, when the rivers were swollen, and at a time when the Executive of the State by no appliance or appeals to the army or navy departments, could obtain guns or ammunition, the people of the Alabama & tributaries, were clamorous for batteries, river-defenses; and now, when we have every thing to effect the blockade of the passages of the Enemy, they will not give, or hire their negroes, for a few weeks, to complete those magnificent works, upon the success of which depend the security of all they possess? Can this indifference be not to be attributed to disloyalty, or want of true Patriotism, but to over-confidence, in many, as to their present security, to the over-confidence and considerations of temporary inconvenience merely, which should not exist at a time like this, for a moment, influence their action.

The Enemy called for from fifteen, should have been at least doubled before there is time to do any thing on the Rivers of the State. Every day's delay increases the danger tenfold. Our ports, from the mouth of the Mississippi to Mobile Bay, are now blockaded, and every hour's delay increases the difficulty of passing the Gun-boats and Mortar-fleet over the bars. I would have been pleased to have had an opportunity of conferring with you, before you left Selma, but the necessities of the case, required that I should write you. I am, Dear Sir, Very respectfully, Your Obt. Servt. (Signed) J. G. Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, July 21st, 1862.

Adjt. Gen. Cooper, Adjt. Genl. Richmond, Va.

Sir, I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 16th inst. and, in reply, have to say that of the number of 50,000 troops, or more, who have entered the Confederate Service from Alabama, we have not the Muster-rolls of over half of them. This grows out of the fact that a large proportion of the Cavalry Companies and Regiments have been accepted directly, by the War Department, and their officers have never reported to the State Executive, a roll of their men; and the State authorities, consequently, have no record of them. Efforts have been made to procure rolls of such Companies & Regiments, but without success. To make copies of the Rolls on file, in the Adjutant Genl's office would require several weeks work, and while it would afford me sincere pleasure to furnish them to you, the small clerical force in this department will be unable to do it, on account of the daily pressure of their present duties. You, however, or any one whom you may designate, shall have full access to the records, to make any copies, & gather any data, which you may deem needful for the patriotic work which you propose to undertake; and any assistance which I may be able to give you, in any way, will be, most cheerfully bestowed.

Very Resp'y, Your obt Serv't:
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Unofficial &c

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala; July 21st. 1862.

Brigadier Gen'l Jno. A. Forney, Head-Quarters, Mobile,

Dear Sir,

I am obliged to you, for your letter of the 18th inst. & if you suggest that it would be agreeable to you, to lay before the Court-martial, on trial of young Howard, charged with desertion, my unofficial letter to you, in behalf of that unfortunate young man. Though, at the time of writing it, I intended it, solely, for your own eye, and wrote very hastily & freely, I cannot decline such use of the letter as you propose. Further reflection has only deepened my conviction that, in dealing with Volunteer troops for dereliction in duty, the utmost caution should be observed, to so graduate merited punishment, as not to excite the passion, and arouse the spirit of rebellion, in the breasts of the Army. The certainty of punishment, in some appropriate, and oftentimes, modified form, has been found, in the administration of justice, far more effectual for reformation of the criminal, & protection of Society, than the severity of Punishment, unduly inflicted, for Conduct which the populace then around, would palliate, or, for which, the verdict would substitute a different atonement. Can there all well balanced minds, not concur in the justice and propriety of executing the traitor who has dishonored his Country's flag, for the defense of which, he had pledged his honor as a Soldier, and joined the enemy to fight against his former friends. In such case— the evidence being clear, & satisfactory— the mere ignominy of Desertion, added to a wilful violation of his plighted honor & Volunteer withdrawn, for a while, from the usual vocations of life, under misguided impulses, or even elected to side-out, to avoid further duty, if possible, on any given organization of which he may have become wearied, but intending to return to the Army again, the repetition of such a crime, in defiance of previous admonitions, officially communicated, that punishment for its perpetration would be a hard case, as a salutary example might be necessary, & perhaps, salutary, in its effect upon the Army, could not fail to excite public disapprobation.

As I stated in my unofficial letter, I do not know young Howard & have access to no papers, other than those, which, in this business, were exhibited to the Court. From the testimony, & the finding of the Court, I infer that he was a conscript, who, after the Volunteers withdrew, for a while, from the usual vocations of the Camp, under misguided impulses, or even elected to side-out, to avoid further duty, if possible, on any given organization of which he may have become wearied, but intending to return to the Army again, the repetition of such a crime, in defiance of previous admonitions, officially communicated, that punishment for its perpetration would be a hard case, as a salutary example might be necessary, & perhaps, salutary, in its effect upon the Army, could not fail to excite public disapprobation

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had been a certificate from the Surgeon that he was unable to attend for duty. The Regiment did not appear at the Place of Rendezvous, and I have every reason to believe, that they will not assemble, until they receive orders from the Governor of Alabama. Under these circumstances, and as a spirit of Harmony & confidence, in our military Leaders, is to be encouraged, I would prefer that no publication should be made upon the delinquency of Col. Howard through the News-papers. Indeed do anxious am I to prevent any issue of that kind, that I have endured personal Complaints against myself, to pass un-noticed, rather than to excite mistrust in others.

One Company alone, and that one from Barbour County, has, as yet, tendered its services, under my proclamation of the 12th May, a copy of which, I enclose Now herein. You will see that the Companies are required to furnish their own arms. The State cannot furnish the arms; but will pay for ammunition purchased by the Captains of the Companies. It will give me pleasure to Commission you as Major of a Battalion, when the Companies have been organized, & accepted. I have declined, in several instances, to issue Commissions, until the Companies have been raised & tendered. This course, having been deemed best, should be adhered to.

I have a letter from Genl Horney, informing me that he will order a Court-Martial, for the trial of young Howard, & see that he has justice done.

Very Truly, Your &c.

(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,

Montgomery, Ala, July 23d 1862.

Lt. J. Lyle, Eaq. Selma, Alabama, Sir. Your despatch of the 21st inst. Lead & request for Executive authority to do so, have been received through the hands of Adjutant & General Watson. You & your associates are, hereby, authorized to open & work lead mines, & lands belonging to the State of Alabama, upon condition that the lead made by those engaged, shall be furnished, and sold to the State, at the prices established by the Confederate Government, or, in the event, the State should decline the purchase, at any time, then to be sold to the Government of the Confederate States, during the War. This is the extent of any powers in the premises.

Very respectfully, your

(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,

Montgomery, Ala. July 23d, 1862

Hon. A. Hamlin, Chairman of the Committee of Vigilance, Montgomery, Ala.

Sir; I have the pleasure to communicate, herewith, a copy of the reply made by Jefferson Davis, Pres.t of the Confederate States, to my letter of the 11th inst. forwarding the Resolutions adopted by the Committee of Vigilance, of Montgomery, &c, in reference to the encouragement, by Executive authority, of Lead mines.

[illegible]

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, July 23d 1862.

Hon. J. A. Randolph, Secretary of War, Richmond Virginia

Sir: Upon, receipt of your communication of the 17th inst. in a sealed "Confidential" prior to its reception, the subject matter embraced had received my attention, and the orders in that communication, had been published throughout the State. I will, in addition, take pleasure to enlighten public sentiments through proper expressions by the newspapers and otherwise, as the evil complained of, dangerous, and growing more wide-spread continually. Active operations in the army, should, now be the order of the day; & the prospect of such movements will, itself, have a tendency to retain the troops in line, and call back absentees.

Very respectfully
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. Gov of Ala.

indorsed Jun

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. July 24th, 1862.

Hon. J. A. Randolph, Sec'y of War, Richmond, Va.

Sir: Mr W. A. Wood, who is engaged, under contract with the State of Alabama, for the manufacture of Rifles for the use of the troops of the State, informs me that he needs the services of Francis Melvon, a Corporal in Capt Crafts (Columbus, Geo.) Artillery — now stationed near Fredericksburgh — now Stationed near Savannah, as a Gunner & Fireman, & that he can more readily, endorse the request of Mr Wood, and respectfully ask the favor of Corporal Melvon, from the Patriotic course pursued by Mr Wood, in continuing to work at his old prices; and that, on account of his health, he is unable to carry-on the carrying Department of his business, without this Detail, and may, in consequence of failure, be forced to discontinue his contract.

If you grant this request, it would be better to direct Corporal Melvon to report direct to Mr Wood, at Milldover Randolph Co. Ala. favoring me with a copy of your order.

Very respectfully your obdt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, July 24th 1862.

Hon. J. A. Randolph, Sec'y of War, Richmond, Va. Sir: Mr P. A. Higgins, of Opelika, Russell Co. Ala, who has a Contract with the State of Alabama, for the manufacture and repair of fire-arms, desires a detail of the following persons as employed by him in the manufacture: P. A. Higgins — H. H. Nelson — David Higgins — W. A. Wilkins — A. H. Higgins and John Woodfin. Under this detail, he can, by his Steam power, run all his machinery to advantage, and by your prompt orders, in the premises, mentioned in my letter of 24th inst.

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter
Gov of Ala.

Jefferson Davis,

President of the Confederate States.

Sir;

I beg to hand you enclosed a memorandum of the various promotions in the Confederate service, both civil and military, which have been made in the different Departments of the service, of persons whose names are recorded at their State Capitols; while the brave soldiers of the States have fought nobly, & whatever may justly claim their Governors' favorable consideration, by virtue of patient endurance or heroic valor. The State has freely given her men & her means to the Cause, and her general confidence in the Government is undiminished by disasters & defeats, which will sometime until our final triumph shall have been achieved.

There is one important matter, to which I wish to direct your attention. There is a wide-spread opinion that promotions & appointments in the line of the army should be in due proportion to the numbers of the troops in the field. However agreeable it might be, in this terrible war, to change State-boundaries and merge the rank and file in heterogeneous combinations from all the States, yet a spirit of State-pride and patriotic rivalry does exist, and it is the part of statesmanship, to control and direct this element, for the accomplishment of the greatest good. Having the pleasure to know & to appreciate you, as I do, I am personally convinced, that the consideration of this subject has received your careful attention, and that you have no other than an honest purpose, to so distribute military appointments, as to secure the greatest efficiency in the army. It has occurred to me, though, that the organization of Brigades, which must take place whenever such fresh regiments are disposed of, affords an occasion for their appointments by the Executive; and I, therefore take the liberty of submitting the names of several officers for your consideration. Not being a man of Military training, myself, & somewhat distrusting my own judgement in these matters, I append my recommendations, relying, upon the character & qualifications of those decided to them by others, who from position & opportunities, may be better informed.

Col. John J. Seibels, of this City, who commanded the 6th Ala. Regt. for 12 months, then, the expiration of his term, retired — declining a re-election, and is now, a Brigadier. He was Major of an Alabama Battalion, in the Mexican War, and while in Mexico, was, for some time, Governor of Orizaba. The reports from the Army in Virginia, which I have received, & followed his return to Alabama, represented him as one of the most efficient & popular officers, & the pride of our Alabama Regiments; and the gallant bearing of the 10th Regiment, in the recent battles near Fredericksburg, is the natural result of his training, which the Regt. had given it. He is a gentleman of distinguished experience, excellent physical health, and possesses a complete knowledge of his duties. I do not know, but, at the same time, can say that his patriotism would, not his inclination, carry him to the front, should he resign; & if he should be appointed, I am confident that he would accept.

Col. Wm. M. Lowndes, now in command of the 28th Alabama Regiment, is an officer from the Eastern, and had a good education. He had about thirteen years experience in the service, and stands very high as a gentleman and an officer.

Col. Richard D. Lowndes, of the 20th Ala. Regt. now an officer in a Mississippi Company in the Mexican War. He commanded a Company from the day of the secession of his State, until last October, when he raised a Battalion, which soon reached to a full Regiment, and which he led, with Gallantry in the Battle of Shiloh. He is a man of fine Military talents great energy - and ambition to win distinction.

Col. Robert H. Smith - of Mobile - of the 36th Regiment, I now forward, as one of our delegates to the Provisional Congress. He is a man of superior intellect, and devotes great Energy and Labor, to the accomplishment of whatever he undertakes to do. He had the advantage of early Training at West Point Though, I believe, he did not remain to graduate. He would make a good Brigadier.

The recommendation of these officers for promotion allow me to say, is made without the knowledge, or solicitation on their part. Having no other object in view than the good of the Cause, I have deemed it proper to submit these suggestions. The omission to mention others, must not be regarded as a denial of Merit or claims on their part.

With sincere esteem, and best wishes for your health & success, amid your arduous labors, I am

Your obed't Serv't

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Gov^r of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala; July 25th 1862

Col. Charles D. Pollard,
President Montgy & Ala. R. R. Co.
Montgomery, Ala.

Sir; The many reports to this Department of the inconveniences & suffering, to which wounded and sick Soldiers are subjected, in travelling on the various rail-road routes, in the Confederacy, induce me to consult your well-known patriotic spirit, & patriotism, to find some remedy for the evil, or to alleviate, in some measure, the sufferings of those who have so cheerfully borne suffering for their Country. Executive action can accomplish nothing, in this respect, except to call the attention of the President & Directors of the Rail-Road Companies to the fact, and to suggest some plan of action for their consideration & adoption, if approved by them.

The ordinary construction of Cars does not afford the room and space necessary for the restful change of posture, required by the sick, and almost indispensable for the comfort of the wounded. These unfortunates - deserving and needing every care, commencing their transportation in a remote part of the Confederacy, are often compelled to retain the same position, in crowded cars, to their destination, to the manifest injury of health, loss of strength, & retarding of their recovery. After a change of Cars, in Depot, Buffet and Eating Houses, they are remitted to their berths, for necessary rest and sleep, sometimes in vain, as healthy & strong passengers have pre-occupied them, & the sick & wounded, left the crippled & the unable to stand, or to find a vacant seat or place reserved.

To remedy the inconvenience and suffering, under, &

dispersion. Not to that land alone, though often unfriendly, are generous tides of sympathy directed, and to succour it (frail bark!) in the midst of many, on its way, on the shore, some strong Samaritan hand is stretching out. Under every form of misfortune, hearts are brought to bear, and hands are ever ready for the alleviation of suffering. Thus, when overwhelmed by the sudden calamity of fire, the noble efforts of Boston, New York, Portland, Chicago, and other cities, have not been limited in this direction, because their great necessity had not been anticipated. Their means of succour were mobilized for the transportation of the well and strong, and the fear, which, for those, forbade the ready sympathy of fellow-travelers, at once excited, and made provision. Such a new state of things is now apparent, calling for new and instant adaptations to the emergency.

A distinguished citizen of Alabama, whose sick and worn, home upon public conveyance, but to die, soon after his arrival, in a letter addressed to me, upon this subject, suggests the importance of having an ambulance car attached to every train. His position for the right to judge of the practicability of this suggestion, is, if justifiable to use his language, "what an amount of suffering would be saved in case of danger, present, and how would the hearts of the poor sick men bless the men who first might give relief to them!"

I submit to your consideration, whether it is not possible, at small expense, to convert a sufficient number of cars, now in use, into such ambulance Cars, and to cause them to be so fitted, exclusively, to the use of sick and wounded soldiers, and their attendants, having them furnished with a sure and adequate supply of fresh water, and requiring, rigidly of Conductors of trains that they should be properly attended and accepted. If this can be done, far more of comfort will be experienced by the sick, while the wounded could clean their wounds, and have them dressed, while in the cars, a thing now, virtually impossible while on their journeys. If this should be established, as a system, there is no doubt that the benevolence of our ladies would soon supply to the ambulance-Cars, all the little appliances necessary for the comfort of the sick wounded. Even if other lines failed to make such improvements, its initiation upon the Alabama roads will reflect upon them the credit of the first movement, and the blessings of thousands of unfortunate & their grateful families will be theirs. But if sufficient reasons prevail to pronounce this plan impracticable, I respectfully submit to your consideration, whether it is not in the power of the Companies to provide for a sufficient supply of water for the sick and wounded, whose necessities for that refreshment, are increased, in consequence of their condition. I have good reason to believe that the supply which, I suppose, the regulations of the Companies require, is often not provided in the Cars occupied by the Soldiers, and when provided, oftentimes, in such small quantities, & at such intervals as neither to satisfy thirst, - than which nothing is more distressing, - than a thing of this is, surely, in the hands of the Companies; and they are called upon by every consideration of humanity & patriotism, to see that their regulations, in this respect, are rigidly enforced by all their employees.

I trust, that upon your Company either formed during the first week of its organization, or executed to furnish the Conductors of cars, and, consequently the efficiency of our army. We have been indebted to their exertions, thereto, more the Authorities of our Rail Road Companies, for the victories already obtained, and feel assured that they will respond to their patriotism with no less their own next Consideration.

(Signed) President of the Office.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. July 26th 1862.

Hon: Jas. A. Seddon, Secty of War, Richmond Va.

My dear Sir;

Sometime since, Lieut. James H. Clanton, of the 1st Regiment Ala. Cavalry, tendered his resignation, which was accepted on the 11th inst, since which the Lieutenant Colonel and Major of the same Regiment with four of its Captains, have either already resigned— or will do so in a few days. The cause of this is a difficulty with Gen'l Bragg, growing out of the arrest of Col. Clanton, by his order, and, as I suppose, under a mistake of facts. I say this for the reason that, upon investigation, Col. Clanton was released from arrest, by the action of Gen'l Bragg. I have no opinion to express. I have not the slightest doubt, that he did what at the time he considered it his duty to do, and most certainly, should not be disposed to blame an officer of his merit, for an act which, if an error was, most probably, caused by the many qualities, which have enabled him to accomplish so much good to the country. Be this as it may, the result will be that the services of a valuable man will be lost, and the Regiment, if not broken up, will be seriously impaired, in discipline and efficiency; and it is in the hope of preventing this, that I have taken the liberty of writing you, unofficially, on the subject. The Confederate service has not, within its ranks, a more gallant or indefatigable officer than Col. C, or one to whom his men are more devoted. Originally opposed to secession, at the commencement of hostilities, he entered the service as a private, and has, not only given his services, but has contributed largely of his individual means, to the Cause. His superior in any duty requiring the highest dash and bravery, I do not believe is to be found in the army.

It is important that such men should, if possible, be kept in the service, and to accomplish it, I would request that he be allowed to withdraw his resignation,—if it be not too late, and that his Regiment be detached from the Command of Gen'l Bragg. They are too much alike, in some respects, to get along well together. In Kentucky under Morgan, or in Virginia under Gen'l Stewart, would perhaps, be the best place for him; though in any Partizan service, he would distinguish himself.

It is not improper that I should state, that I have written, solely upon my own Convictions, and not at the suggestion of Col. C. or any of his friends. I have, it is true, stated to him my regret at the disapproval of his resignation. He, however, is anxious, just now, under, what he conceives to be injustice, to quit, I have no doubt, come what will, in a few days, and to glad to return to the service, if it can be allowed. I shall be highly gratified if it can be accomplished.

Very respectfully, Your obt Servt.
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala; July 28th 1862.

Lieut D. H. Greene, A. D. C. Mobile,

Dear Sir

Your letter of 24th inst, etc. etc. reached me with the usual promptness of the mail. I was obliged to you for your confidential advices upon the important subject of your letter, & upon which we fully agree. Politics tired, I propose during the remainder of my term to devote me, and I have discarded any aspirations to be governor again, and Chickamauga & Perryville to their cause.

they have decided to submit the proposition to the Secretary of War, and I am requested to state it to him without declaring in any manner opinions of the impropriety of the movement. They [illegible] at once, except for the idea, that the Government might find, in this plan, some ground for complication of the blockade question, which might [illegible] a departure from a sound general policy, to accomplish a material advantage. And yet, Sam has altogether satisfied them that no evil results. Still I have deemed it not improper to advise the War Department fully on the subject, and to show that the Government will act wisely in the matter. I regret that the consignees of the salt, by the "Gen Ga", are willing to let the State have it, at certain profits, for general distribution

Respectfully, Yours.
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter. Gov of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. July 28th 1862.

Hon. Thos. A. Walker, Jacksonville, Ala.

Dear Sir; I beg to hand you, enclosed, copies of certain correspondence, by letter, of Confederate officers, in relation to the exchange of salt made at Tuscumbia, as agent for the State, at Tuscumbia, Mississippi. The sacks of Virginia salt turned over to us were, contained only, originally, three bushels, of solar evaporation, to the bushel, but will not now, average that much. The sacks of Liverpool salt originally averaged two hundred pounds or over, but those you exchanged had been handled so much and so roughly, that they, also, had lost in weight a good deal. Still, allowing for this loss, I think the Government Commissary ought to give the State more of the Virginia salt to make the exchange equal, unless it shall be found that the deficiency would be consumed, in charges for freight from Mississippi to Montgomery or Selma. Please examine the enclosed correspondence, & inform me if the facts stated are according to your recollection.

Very truly, yours,
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala; July 28th 1862.

Hon. L. P. Walker,
Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.

Sir;

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 23d inst, in reply to mine of the 17th for which accept my thanks. I have, instead of referring to Commissary a copy of your letter to Peter Hamilton, Esq., Mobile, directed to Gen. Ka. T. Walker, Selma, and if I could succeed in accomplishing any thing, by further correspondence of the subject, I will, forthwith communicate with you.

Very respectfully, Your ob't Ser't (signed) Jno Gill Shorter. Gov of Ala.

Executive Dept. July 23rd 1862

Gen. D. C. Greene, A. A. Gen., Ala: Mobile; Sir; Capt. A. A. Henderson of Demopolis, Ala, has been appointed Agent for the State, at that point, for sale & distribution of salt. All salt shipped to him by you, he will be directed to account to you for; stating his returns in such form as you may direct. A copy of my letter to him is herewith, enclosed. You will ship him 10 sacks of salt, and as you receive it, send you enclosed, copies of letters which will explain the matter. Maj. Walker informed me today, that the Cuba brought him from 800 to 1000 sacks salt, and the Confederate Government from control of the entire Cargo; but that the army did not need the salt. This accounts Gen. Harvey, I said no in securing it for the State, if possible.

Very respectfully, Your ob't Ser't (signed) Jno Gill Shorter. Gov of Ala.

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Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 24th 1862.

Hon. G. W. Randolph, Secretary of War.

Sir; I visited, a few days since, the Armory works, inaugurated in this City, on Government account, by Capt. Wagner, of the Ordnance Department, and the evidences of his energy & skill were so manifest that I then deemed it but just to him, to certify the fact to your Department, aside from the valuable services rendered by Capt Wagner, amid difficulties almost insurmountable, in procuring & issuing to the troops of this State, all needful equipments for the field, as far as it was possible to obtain them; and, in addition to large quantities shipped, to fill orders from and the State, he has started shops for the repair of small arms, and for their manufacture, and for the manufacture of Canteens & other appliances needed by the army: in the prosecution of which, he has evinced a diligence & faithfulness highly commendable. In operating most successfully, the varied machinery in his Armory establishment, will require, at least fifty additional laborers, and I earnestly recommend that they be furnished him, without delay. I assure that the establishment for the time it has been operated — cannot be surpassed by any in the Confederacy, and that a liberal patronage by the Government will make it of large advantage to the Country.

In view of the efficient labors, fidelity, & skill of Capt Wagner, I beg to suggest, that promotion by the Department would be only a graceful acknowledgement of the services of a most valuable officer.

Very respectfully, Yr obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, July 29th 1862

Messrs Stewart, Buchanan, & Co. Saltville, Va.

Gentlemen,

I am obliged to you for the propositions submitted to the State of Alabama, for the manufacture of Salt, at your works. Availing myself of the terms offered, I have contracted with Messrs McClung & Jacques, of Knoxville, Tennessee, that they shall close the Contract with you, as Copartners on their own name, and proceed to erect furnaces, and manufacture salt for delivery to the State of Alabama; and as these gentlemen, I trust, will, from their known character & responsibility, will faithfully perform their agreement, I have respectfully to request you to contract with them, upon the same terms, which you proposed to the State of Alabama, in order that the People of this State may realize the advantage, which your liberality first suggested.

Very respectfully, Yr obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 30th 1862.

Jno S. Wolff, Mobile, Dear Sir, Availing myself of the first convenient opportunity to reply to your letter of the 19th inst. rec'd only a few days since, I have to say that the ordinary mode of procuring papers of vessels, is by the production of the papers or bills of sale, shewing the title. In the case of the Florida, I presume the title-papers were recorded in the Custom-house at Mobile, and a certified copy of the same will be sufficient. Without any personal acquaintance with Mr Fiddes or Capt. Henry, affidavits before a reputable magistrate will be accepted, as to their loyalty to the Confederate cause. If not convenient for them to procure others, it should be agreeable to you to testify on this point in their behalf, upon affidavit of the fact. All proof of your own fidelity to the Confederacy will be waived, on your own character, & I do not think it will be necessary.

Very Yr obt Servt (Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, July 30th 1862

Ft. Morgellus, Esq. Mobile,

Dear Sir, I am in receipt of your favour of 28th inst. enclosing $ [illegible] account of negro-hirelings, Mr. J. Lockett, of Mobile, for services rendered on Dauphin Island, which had been paid Mr. Lockett, by the State. The amount enclosed re-imburses the advance by the State.

The statement of the respective accounts with the negro-hirelings, made out by the clerk of the Commissioners, sent, have, submitted to me, should not correct the owners of these negroes. Per day that the same class of laborers in Mobile were hired only $2. per days and that the hirers paid their own fare & board; the accounts, as rendered are made out upon this basis, and include charges also for transportation back & forth. When you & Judge Dexter telegraphed me for retainers, such were sent down were promised $2.50 per day at home, and, of course were not expected to be paid in Mobile. I found difficulty to get them at this price, according to the information reported to me.

Very Respy yr obt Servt
(Signed) John Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. July 30th 1862

D. C. Green, Esq. Mr. Gen. of Ala. Mobile.

Dear General, Am in receipt of your favor of 25th inst. and, in reply, have to say that a desire for a free interchange of views, and the best disposition to be made of the State arms, is mutual, and I shall be pleased to see you at the Capital, the first of next week.

Respectfully, yours,
(Signed) John Gill Shorter Gov of Alabama.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, July 22d 1862

Col. Henry L. Hopkins,

Mobile, Alabama Sir, I have the pleasure of forwarding, by the hands of Capt. Shortly Dexter, Eighty dollars, received from Commissioners, in Mobile, for services of Vita steamer of Mrs Lee, on Dauphin Island.

You will please sign & return the receipt herewith sent, so that I can make it a voucher for the Commissioners.

Very Respectfully, Yours,
John Gill Shorter.

P.S. July 30th 1862.

— Enclosed left unchecked for King, Minor Cotter, & forwarded by mail

John Gill Shorter.
Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. July 30th 1862.

Lieut. A. McC. Hamilton, Secy of Mil. Affairs.

Sir, I have, respectfully, to request that you will procure, & forward to Capt. James E. Saunders, A. D. C. to Gen. H. R. Jones, Gen. of Brigade, Capt. Geo. W. Ward, A. D. C. to Brig. Gen. W. Loundes, Henry G. Lyle, Wm. Pickens, Geo. Pickens, Wm Smith, Wm Ward, Jerman Gray, Peck Smith, George Cocken, & Henry M. Wright, [illegible]

residents of Mobile to be in this State, and on the organization of the Manufacturing Company, be exempted from the operation of the conscript act. This factory is controlled & directed by Daniel Ball, the principal Stockholder, and a gentleman of the most enterprising public spirit & liberality are engaged all previous. And I hazard nothing in the assertion that requiring a non-assistance is important & beyond what was contemplated when the law was passed.

In the Application & the affidavit of Mr. Ives, and in order that the State has large Contracts with the Company for the supply of cloth at moderate prices, I would, however, take the liberty of suggesting, that if the employees could be enrolled and then detailed, with orders to report to Mr. Pratt, at Prattville, it might answer the purpose better than exempting them, at, in that event, should they leave the factory, they could be ordered into service. If entitled, under such circumstances, to pay from the Government, the Factory would cheerfully take upon itself the charge, if proper for it to do so. As the enrollment is now going on, and as the effect operates injuriously in distributing the requisite of the operations, I may be excused for asking an early reply to this application.

Very respy Your obt Servt
(Signed) McGill Shorter.

Confidential

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 30th 1862.

Hon. G. W. Randolph, Secretary of War;

Sir;

I am credibly informed that a Company of responsible men, citizens of the Confederate States, propose to ship Cotton out of the Port of Mobile, in exchange for Salt. The Salt is to be first imported through the blockade, by permission of United-States' officers, and the cotton then carried out to pay for the Salt. The arrangement is to be made with Gen° Butler, & Commander Farragut, who will, it is said, permit the Exchange to be made in the Gulf, and the Salt to come into Mobile or Pensacola, and from the latter place, to pass through the Enemy's lines, into the interior. These United-States' officers are reported to have agreed to the arrangement stated, and which is said to be "unlimited in extent. What is now wanted, it seems, is the permission of the War-Department, for the Company to take out the Cotton, and make the exchange proposed. They have frankly disclosed this plan to me, and requested me to submit it for your consideration, and advised me that from some intimation received, it would be approved by you. I informed these gentlemen, that as the proposed scheme was forbidden by the law, and contrary to my own decided convictions as to the policy & interest of our Government, I could not endorse it, or even refer it for your consideration, except as a matter of information, to be looked at with a view of ascertaining, whether the Government could by participating, it, in any form, bring about any complication of the blockade-question, which might promise a public advantage. That I was quite sure the Secretary of War could have given no intimation in favor of such a project, unless he had the best reasons for believing that some important result could be attained, beyond the mere introduction of cloth, however great a necessity that article might be, at this time; and it is upon this ground, that I have submitted the statement herein made, for your consideration. Very respy your obt Servt

(Signed) McGill Shorter.

Montgomery

Executive Department,
Montgomery, July 31st 1862.

Capt. Chas. A. Stevens, Chief of Engineers, Mobile.

Dear Sir, Since I sent Lieut. Wagner for the completion of the batteries at Choctaw Bluff, the necessity has arisen for the immediate enlargement of Forts Tarver and Huger on the Tombigbee and the Alabama, below Demopolis, and I have ordered the negroes at those batteries sent down to work on them. Lieut. Wagner will be directed to return to Choctaw Bluff, and complete the batteries there, so that the whole force may, soon, be fully concentrated.

My Agent, from Selma, who sent down 17 negroes on the 15th, by steamboat to Choctaw Bluff, writes, "I sent them without spelling, by rail-road from the C. S. Quarter-master; but I think it will be best hereafter for Genl Forney, (if would be best to get the Quarter-transportation from the Quarter-master. He will give the transportation, on being notified of the order from Genl Forney; and order them upon the C.S. Agents for transportation, as heretofore. I have written Capt. Stevens, Chief of Engineers, Mobile, on this subject, and notified him of the different route, which I advise you.

Very Respectfully, Your ob't Serv't,
(signed) Jno. Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 31st 1862.

Col. W. Johnston, Agt. Selma.

Dear Sir, I am in receipt of your favor of the 28th inst., and obliged to you for your prompt & patriotic aid, in procuring the laborers for Choctaw Bluff. Your remarks as to the difficulties, in the way of filling the requisition are noted and appreciated. Overseers were sent down with the last lot of negroes, and superintended them; but some have gone, recently, without overseers. Still, the accounts from the Batteries are much exaggerated. And the management of the Negroes been conceded to State-Agents, matters would have gone on better, but the engineer-department claimed, it could not. The accounts for transportation must be made out against the Engineer Department of the Confederate States, in full, and, certified by you as State-Agent, under my appointment, will be paid, on presentation. I have just written Capt. Stevens, Chief of Engineers, Mobile, on this subject, and notified him of the different route, which I advise you.

Very Respectfully, Yours,
(signed) Jno. Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. August 1st 1862.

Lt. A. Yates, A.D.C. West Point,
Mississippi.

Sir,

Acknowledge receipt of your letter of 26th July, in relation to the Hospital bedclothing and mattresses. Coincide in opinion with you that the present arrangements are unsatisfactory, the exertions of many more willing hands, and that it is better to dispose of the material in hand.

Your suggestions, therefore, in regard to the appointment of a Board of Physicians and Surgeons, to examine the articles, and dispose of the unserviceable, meet my approval.

Very respectfully, Your ob't Serv't,
(signed) Jno. Gill Shorter,

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Aug 1st 1862.

Jno. M. Maury, Asst. Quartermaster
Dear Sir,

The Governor of the Penitentiary are Executive Officers of the State and are supposed to be confidential agents, but not presume any Confederate officer will interfere with or meddling them. If he does, he will have his trouble for nothing.

Respectfully, Yours,
Jno Gill Shorter. Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, Aug 1st 1862.

Hon. Geo. W. Randolph, Secretary of War, Richmond;
Sir:

Will you please advise me, at an early a day as possible, if the requisition made by the Confederate Government of blankets and clothing for our Army, one of a character which can be relied on to carry it through the coming Fall & Winter. My object in ascertaining this information is to ensure a sufficient supply of clothing to the troops from this State; if the State resources will enable me to do so, as to cotton goods, I do not anticipate any great difficulty, but have great fears as to blankets, and Woollen goods, generally, as well as shoes & socks. The little wool we have in the State, is bearing an enormous price, and the condition of the Mississippi presents serious obstacles to obtaining supplies from Texas. Shoes also, are difficult to contract for, in large quantities, at any price.

I will thank you to be as definite as possible, as to each of the articles referred to, so that I may understand clearly, in what direction — and to what extent, the Capacities of the State should be exerted.

Very respectfully, Your obt Servt
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Alabama.

Executive Department.
Montgomery, Ala, Aug 1st 1862.

Hon. Geo. W. Randolph
Secretary of War,
Richmond
Virginia.

Sir,

I find that in the application made, by me, in my letter of the 30th ult, to exempt certain employees of the Talladega Manufacturing Company from the operation of the Conscript act, the name of William A. Beckwith was inadvertently omitted by the Agents. He is the Pattern-maker, besides being retained in other capacities, and is indispensable to the carrying on of the Concern. I enclose you a supplemental affidavit of Mr Fay, and would thank you to include the name of Mr Beckwith in the list of exemptions.

Very resp'y, Your obt Servt
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery Ala, August 2nd 1862.

Hon. Geo. W. Randolph, Secretary of War,
Sir: I am instructed by the Governor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 29th ult — in relation to the recent Conscript Law — and to state, in reply, that the Agents of the State, in the discharge of the duties imposed upon them by the Act, were guided in the selection of the articles to be furnished by the Quartermaster General of the State, by the instructions of the Governor, and the Agents were directed, by the State Quartermaster General, to purchase

ceive, and speedy returns of them, are of paramount importance to the State, and with the hope that, after the present week, if the last of the present month, the necessary supplies shall have been received on the Tombigbee rivers, and made their way to convenient points for your citizens, to procure them, I am directed by the Governor to say, that he has directed Messrs H. L. Johnson & Co. of Selma to furnish, upon your order, thirty sacks of Salt. This you will have shipped to such point as you may deem best, and will sell at such prices as to re-imburse the State ten cents per lb, at Selma, you adding to it the expenses from there, and charges &c. You will sell in small quantities, so that as there may be as even a distribution of supply as possible, using a fair discretion as to the size of families, supplying, in preference, those who are entirely without salt. To this end, you had better require applicants to make affidavit as to their necessity, and that they buy for their own use, and not for sale.

Resp'y, Yours,

(Signed) Jno. W. Dayton, Private Secretary.

Copy of order &c.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala; Aug. 2nd 1862.

Messrs H. L. Johnson, &c Selma, Alabama; Gentlemen,

You will honor the order of Hon. Thomas M. Corbett, Judge of Jasper Co., for thirty sacks of Salt, and deliver, or ship according to his directions. Resp'y, yrs,

Jno. Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala; July 28th 1862.

Capt. H. A. M. Henderson, Demopolis; Ala;

Sir, you are, hereby appointed Agent of the State of Alabama, at Demopolis, Ala. for the sale & distribution of Salt.

You will sell, received by you, until further instructed, in quantities of one half Bushel, & upwards, to each family, not, in any case to exceed one ~~half bushel~~ sack to each family, according to size of family, in all cases exercising a sound discretion, giving the preference, all other things being equal, to indigent families, and those entirely destitute of this great necessary. If you have any doubt as to representations of destitution and size of families, or whether the applicant intends to make a speculative use of the Salt, you will require an affidavit to be made & filed in your office. Fifty lbs constitute a bushel, according to the Army regulations, and the State allows, and you will sell at ten (10) cents per lb, which will cover cost to the State. The circulars sent herewith will give you the views of the Executive, in relation to the supply from the State-agencies. This Salt, you will keep distinct from the other, and it is to be sold, only to the accredited agents of the counties entitled to be supplied &

...ton Deposite, and of which you will be notified, at such price, as will re-imburse the State, the original expense, and the cost & charges of transportation. The cost, at the works will be to the State One hundred Dollars per hundred of fifty pounds.

You will receive Shipments from Genl Duff Greene, Quarter-master Genl of the State of Alabama, at Mobile, and will report to him, all receipts and sales of salt received from him, according to such forms as he may direct for that purpose.

I also enclose you bonds for execution, which return, at an early day, with certificate of Judge of Probate, as to Standing of Securities, Let the Bonds be executed in the presence of one or more subscribing witnesses. Demopolis will supply indigent families of Soldiers supported by the Counties in Marengo, Sumpter, Greene & Pickens, with Salt from John P. High & Co. at two dollars per bushel, including Sacks, other Salt will be sold, as directed, at ten cents per lb to those needing Salt to pray for it.

Respectfully, Yr.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala Augt 2nd 1862

Jefferson Davis. Pres't C.S.A. Richmond.

Sir, Since my letter to you of the 24th ult, I have deemed it proper, to the consideration the matter of further appointments of Brigadiers from Alabama, in enquiry into the claims of others in the army, not mentioned in my letter. The following named officers have been suggested by their different friends, as worthy of promotion. Viz. Cols. Law of the 4th Ala Regt Gordon of the 6th; Moore of the 11th; County of 15th Wheeler, & Tracy, of 19th Garrott of the 20th Clayton of the 39th (formerly Col. of the 1st Ala) - Gracie of the 43d; Crichton of 1st Cavalry Regt.

I am aware, mr President, of the difficulty of making selections for appointments of this nature, among the many worthy and Gallant officers. They are admired by their friends in Ala, and having no person object to at present, in the advancement of any one mentioned, I submit their names, in order that, availing yourself of all the information you may obtain, you may give them such consideration, as their real merits entitle them to at your hands; assured as I feel that, in all such matters, you will be governed alone by your convictions, as to the good of the service & the Country.

Respy. Yr obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, Augt 2nd 1862

Wm. M. Byrne, Esq. Tuskegee, Ala. Dear Sir, Yours, of the 30th ult since rec'd. I have written the President, urging additional appointments of Brigadiers for Alabama troops, and have mentioned Col. Law's name to him, in connection with others named, for his consideration. There is no order from the War-dept exempting Cadets; but I am sure the enrolling officers will forbear to assume any control over them, in opposition to the order of the State Executive. I am advised that their omission in the Exemption bill, was accidental or unintentional. The Sec. of War regrets it, & will, I hope, raise no issue with me, on this subject, until after the next Congress meets, when the bill can be amended. They are protected by the Military orders of Virginia & Geo. as well as in Ala. If Congress shall refuse to exempt them, then up at the hazard of suspending the University Exercises. In the meantime, they will be protected by the State authority, if interfered with by Enrolling officers Respy Yrs
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Office
Montgomery, Aug. 2d 1862

Hon. Leroy Pope Walker, Sec. of War, Richmond, Va.

Herein, copy of orders from this Department, in relation to the Corps of Cadets, State Military Academy, and the property at the University. The Governor and Council, at their meeting, on yesterday, decided, that the State cannot give up her Cadets, now under pay, to the Confederate service, but that the Military Institute of Virginia had been preserved, intact, by your order, and have intimated this fact in my Communication to the Sec'y of War. In this matter, I hope I may not be misunderstood. The Language of the Conscript Act, and its amendment, is so clear, as to leave, but little room, for a rather hasty, work of construction in the matter of the bills; and it is to be regretted that the list of exemptions, were not made more full & particular. To destroy our Military Schools, the nurseries of the armies of the States and the Confederacy, in this very midst of War, would be a Policy, too Suicidal, to receive the approval of Congress, and I have no doubt that the next Session will amend the exemption act, so as to enable the States to maintain their State institutions. I respectfully ask to be informed, whether I am mistaken, in the reference made to the Military Academy of Virginia, and whether I may or not hope to have your valuable assistance in favor of an amendment of the exemption act, at the next session of Congress, as herein suggested.

Respy, Your Ob't Serv't.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, Aug. 2d 1862

To
Jethro Letcher, Gov. of Virginia, Richmond, Va.

Sir, I beg to submit, for your examination, a copy of a letter, this day sent to Hon. L. P. Walker, Sec. of War, requesting an order to suspend the enrollment of the Corps of Cadets, attached to the University of Ala. My information is, that the Military Institute of Virginia had been preserved, intact, by your order, and I have intimated this fact in my Communication to the Sec'y of War. In this matter, I hope I may not be mistaken. The Language of the Conscript Act, and its amendment, is so clear, as to leave, but little room, for a rather hasty, work of construction in the matter of the bills; and it is to be regretted that the list of exemptions, were not made more full & particular. To destroy our Military Schools, the nurseries of the armies of the States and the Confederacy, in this very midst of War, would be a Policy, too Suicidal, to receive the approval of Congress, and I have no doubt that the next Session will amend the exemption act, so as to enable the States to maintain their State institutions. I respectfully ask to be informed, whether I am mistaken, in the reference made to the Military Academy of Virginia, and whether I may or not hope to have your valuable assistance in favor of an amendment of the exemption act, at the next Session of Congress, as herein suggested.

Respy, Your Ob't Serv't.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, Aug. 4th, 1862

Messrs. H. L. Johnson, & Co. Selma, Ala. Gentlemen; You will turn over to Capt. John Hobbins, from 50 to 80 double-barrell Shot-guns, to be used by him for his Company, in exchange for so many Carbines, to be made and delivered to the State of Alabama, by Mr Butler of Selma. By reference to my letter of this date, to Capt Hobbins, you will be informed as to the mode of adjusting the accounts between him & the State. You will please collect all the guns, belonging to the State, which may be in your City, and report the same, together with an account of the guns turned over to Capt Hobbins.

Respectfully,
Yours &c.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Aug. 4th, 1862

Capt. John Robbins, Selma, Ala. Dear Sir; Being anxious to see your Company in the service, inasmuch as I hope it will be used in defense of North Alabama, I will, cheerfully, comply with your request to exchange double barrell shot-guns for Carbines being made by Mr Sutter, in Selma. Inclose an order on Mess^rs T. L. Johnson & Co. for the Shot-guns; you & they agree on the valuation of the Shot-guns—and state the account correctly; and I will fix the Carbines, at the Contract price, at which they are to be furnished, which, I understand, is $35, or about that sum. You can pay Johnson & Co, for the Shot-guns, and the State will pay Sutter for the Carbines; or, you can pay the value of the Shot-guns, to Sutter, in part pay for the Carbines, and the State will pay him the balance. Either plan will be agreeable to me.

Respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jn^o Gill Shorter, Gov^r of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Aug^t 4th 1862.

Lieut. John L. Sturgeon, Camp Clement F. Martin, Oxford, Ala.

Sir, I have given upon letter of the 2^d inst., a careful consideration, and think it would be better—both for your Command & the State, to sell you the Guns which you need, at a valuation rather than to incur them the difficulties which are in the way of obtaining payment of such accounts from the Confederate Government presents the only obstacle, and that lies principally, in the proper form of the account & valuation, and the certificates of the proper officers. They could be settled here, by Appraisers, selected to the satisfaction of the Confederate Officers here, and I purpose to furnish you with the guns you require, in that way, if you can get such an appraisement made, which, I presume Can be done.

Very Respectfully, Yours
(Signed) Jn^o Gill Shorter, Gov^r of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Aug^t 4th, 1862

Messrs Stewart & Buchanan MCs. Nashville Tn.

Gentlemen; I made a contract, on the 29th ult^o with Mess^rs McClung & Jacques, of Knoxville, Tennessee, for the manufacture of salt, at your Works, for the State of Alabama, at the rate of five hundred bushels per day. This supply will be wholly inadequate for our people; and another Company "The Alabama Salt Manufacturing Co," composed of responsible citizens of this State, have been induced by me, to undertake the manufacture of five hundred bushels more, per day, for the use of the people of Alabama, & to be furnished to the State upon similar terms to those made with Mess^rs McClung & Jacques. I sincerely hope that it may be convenient and agreeable for you, to allow to this Company, for the use of this State, upon the terms heretofore communicated, a supply of Water, to make, at least, five hundred bushels of Salt per day.

Respectfully, Your ob^t Servant
(Signed)
Jn^o Gill Shorter.
Gov^r of Ala.

P.S. Chancellor W. R. Manson & Hon. A. S. Gaines, members of the Com House, will visit you, to confer upon this matter, & will speak for them. your confidence friendly attentions.

(signed) Jn^o Gill Shorter, Gov^r of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Aug. 5th 1862

Hon. W. M. Smith, Shelby Springs, Dear Sir: In reply to yours [illegible] and after consultation with the State Treasurer, I have to inform you that the State taxes coming into the Treasury will be sufficient to meet all necessary expenditures likely to occur, prior to the Convening of the Legislature.

Respy your obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Aug. 5th 1862.

Maj. Gen. Van Horn, Head-Quarters, Greenesboro, Ala,

Sir: I hasten to express the obligation imposed, by the prompt and efficient manner in which you have executed the order for the detailment of negro laborers from Greene County, for the completion of the important river-defenses at Choctaw and Iron Bluffs. Your report is fully approved, and all items of expense, properly stated, & certified by you, will be promptly paid, on presentation at this office.

Respectfully, Yr obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala

Executive Department;
Montgomery, Ala; Aug: 5th 1862.

Col. Wm. M. Webb, Eutaw, Ala;

My dear Sir, In reply to your letter of the 1st inst, I beg to say that extortion is the most heinous sin of the day, and it is not confined to any particular class or calling. The rich and the poor are, alike, more or less, addicted to it. It is a sin against Christianity, and God, only, knows how it is to be reached and punished. There would be no justification in an interference with one class only, the root of the evil should be struck. The Executive power of the State is unable to reach it. The President of the Confederate States has power, by Act of Congress, to declare Martial Law, and appoint Provost-marshalls to aid the military in enforcing proper police regulations: Whether the State Executive has power to declare Martial Law, which involves a suspension of the writ of Habeas Corpus, and the ordinary civil remedies, may well be questioned, in the absence of legislative authority. I have, in no instance exercised the power, or appointed Provost-Marshalls, and prefer not to do so, under present circumstances. I am gratified to know that the corn-crop of your County will be sufficient for home Consumption. The drought, in many localities, has badly damaged the crop, but it is confidently believed that the product of the State will afford a bountiful supply for our people; and I sincerely hope that it may be distributed, where needed, at such prices, as the destitute can afford to pay.

Respectfully, Yr obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, Aug 5th 1862

Hon. G. W. Randolph, Sec'y of War, Richmond; Sir, I respectfully refer, to your favorable consideration, the enclosed letter of Capt. Huffin of 18th Alabama, Vol. Reg't, which shows a case of peculiar hardship. Returning to his Regiment, after a sick furlough, he finds himself displaced, and deprived of his command, without trial or sentence of Court-martial, and condemned to inaction, at the time his health is sufficient to allow him to take Command. Capt. Huffin is a zealous, and energetic, officer of Military Command; and if his case has been submitted to the Law-Department, and decided in his favour, it seems but right that he should be, immediately restored to his Command.

Very Respt'y Yr obt Servt.
(Signed) J. McGill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Aug 5th 1862

Hon. J. A. Campbell, Sec'y of War, Richmond.

Sir; I respectfully refer to your favorable consideration, the enclosed application of Mr Benjamin M. Stephens, for detail of John Barclay, Private in Capt Hamner's Company, 37th Regiment of Alabama Volunteers (Col. Lowdell) as an operative in a wool-carding machine. The main object of the Neighbourhood, in desiring the Detail—as represented to me, is for the purpose of supplying their own Troops with Winter-Clothing, as they have heretofore done. This is too important a matter to be neglected, and in view of the great necessity, in this regard, pressing upon the State-the Confederate Authorities, and to which our people are so fully alive, I ask for this Detail, if consistent with the necessities of the Service, and in accordance with your views, to report to me at this place. Col Lowdell's Regiment at the last advices here was in the Vicinity of Columbus, Mississippi.

Very Respt'y Yr obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Alab.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Aug 20 1862

W. C. Sherman Esqr Daderville, Alabama,

Sir; I am informed that you are of opinion, that it is your duty to enroll, as Conscripts, the Medical Professors in the Graeffenberg Medical Institute of Alabama, under Forty five years of age. This College is incorporated by the Legislature of the State, and its Professors are exempt by the express terms of the exemption act of Congress. No Election could unite. While I am a fast friend of the Conscript Law, believing, as I do, that it has saved our Army, and will save the Country—and while I will contribute, if need be, by State-authority, to its prompt and rigid enforcement, it is equally my duty to interfere for the protection of those of those of our citizens who may not be embraced within its provisions. A Notice of Protest, in all such cases, should be sufficient to induce the Enrolling officers to desist, and, in all such cases, to refer the question to the Secretary of War, for instructions. And it is with this view, that I now, address you, and respectfully, protest against your right to enroll the Professors of the Graeffenberg Medical Institute of Alabama.

Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter Gov of Ala:

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Aug 5th 1862.

Brig. Gen. John H. Forney, Head-Quarters, Mobile.

Sir; In accordance with the orders of Capt Chas J. Lemur, Chief of Engineers, I had purchased, & shipped to him, on the 21st ult-imo last, a quantity of Cotton, costing $25,274.23, and on To-day, a further sum of $23,168.25. The purchases were made through our Selling Agent of this City—one of the most trust-worthy & experienced in the Mercantile circles, who, I am sure, filled the orders, to the very best advantage. As Capt Lemur did not send the funds to pay for the Cotton, I could not have the orders promptly executed, without agreeing to advance the money to my Selling Agent, to pay for it; & I did, from the Treasury of the State.

The purchases amount, in the aggregate, to $52,042.57 and I have to request to order this amount paid over to the order of my Selling Agent, to re-imburse the State. I hope the money will be as cheerfully appropriated, as the Cotton orders were made. Respectfully, Yrs
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Treasury C.S.A. Confederate
Richmond, Aug. 2nd 1862.

Messrs. John R. Tight & Co. Lessees of State Salt-works,

Gentlemen, With the Sale of the Salt you manufacture, and not by Contract the State is compelled to furnish all the surplus Salt manufactured after what is disposed of by the Legislature in meeting their necessary Expenses. I have to request that henceforth you decline making Sale with third parties, at the Salt-works, of more than 1.25 per bushel, so that the bonus of ten cents per bushel may be saved by the Government not the State.

I have established depositories for the sale & distribution of the Salt obtained from your works, by the State at Mobile - Demopolis - Tuscaloosa - Selma - Talladega & Montgomery. By the enclosed Circular addressed to Judges of Probate you will perceive that this Salt is to be furnished to the County Commissioners only - at cost & charges - for the benefit of the indigent families of our Volunteers in the Army. The assistant Quarter-master of the State at Montgomery, Lieut. W. R. Pickett, will keep you supplied with two-bushel sacks, which you will have filled & shipped, as fast as possible, to the different places of Deposit herein stated, distributing the shipments, in the proportion of twenty bushels to the County, and according to the memorandum herewith enclosed. This plan, it is believed, will secure a distribution of Salt, for the present supply, upon the most equitable plan which can be adopted. You will also report to this Department, the shipments of Salt made by you, as fast as the same are made, and, in all cases, forward bills of Lading to Consignees, so that they may be duly advised.

Very Respectfully, Yr obt. Servt.
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

August 2nd 1862. Memorandum, for Shipments of Salt, (alluded to in the above letter) by John R. Tight, & Co. Lessees of State Salt-works.

Mobile; State-Agent - Duff & Green, 2nd M. Genl. will supply the Counties of Mobile, Baldwin, Monroe, Conecuh & Wilcox.

Demopolis; State-Agent; Capt. A. A. M. Henderson, will supply Marengo Greene, & Sumter, and Pickens after the Bigbee fills again.

Montgomery; State Agent - Wm. R. Pickett, A. A. G. M. will supply Montgomery, Lowndes, Autauga, Coosa, Tallapoosa, Chambers, Macon, Russell, Barbour, Pike, Butler, Covington, Coffee, Dale, & Henry.

Talladega; State-Agent; Gen. J. G. L. Hucy, will supply Talladega, Randolph Calhoun, Cherokee, St. Clair & Blount.

Selma; State-agents; R. L. Johnson & Co. will supply Dallas, Perry, Bibb, Shelby & Jefferson.

Tuscaloosa; State-Agent; John R. Gibbs, A. M. of University; will supply Tuscaloosa, Walker, Winston, Marion, Fayette & Pickens until the Bigbee fills.

The Counties of Choctaw, Clarke, & Washington, will be supplied by deliveries at the Salt-works.

The Counties in the valley of the Tennessee not named, for the reason that no State Depot is necessary, supplies for them, from the Salt-works in Virginia

(Signed)
Jno. Gill Shorter.
Gov. of Alabama.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Aug 6th 1862.

Hon. R. Jemison jr. Tuscaloosa, Ala

Dear Sir, In reply to your letter of the 1st instant, but recently received, I have to say the 3d clause of Genl order no. 4, from this Department, is operative only when any particular locality is occupied as a Camp, under State, or Confederate authority. But the presence of Confederate troops, camps, &c. for the day or night, any where in the State, brings the order into force. In any event, your prompt wise action, in ordering the seizure of the liquor mentioned, is heartily approved; & I thank you for it. So far as an extension of the order is concerned, to embrace all cities, incorporated towns and villages, as suggested by you, I have to say, that under present circumstances, I cannot find the same justification for it, as was afforded by the grounds upon which the first order was based. I am quite sure, as a police arrangement, it would be a wise provision, to continue during the war; and Brig Genl Forney issued an order, which embraces the navigable rivers, and the Rail-Road routes, including the towns & cities contiguous to them. I was in Mobile, & aided him in the preparation of this order, & hoped it would have proved sufficiently effective.

The Quarter-Master of the C. S. army, whom you report as drunk at Tuscaloosa, ought not to be allowed to go un punished; and if you will furnish me his name, and consent to it, I will forward the facts to Genl Bragg. In such event, it would be well to send me the the Certificates of yourself and such others as you deem proper, stating his conduct & incapacity.

I shall leave, on Saturday, for Eufaula, to be absent, for eight or ten days - from the Capitol.

Very truly, Yours,
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Aug 7th 1862

Hon. J. M. Randolph, Sec. of War, Richd

Sir: Same, to-day, in receipt of your dispatch of Yesterday, in reply to mine of 31st of July. The first reply of 4th inst. also came to hand, after my dispatch of 5th inst. had left. And now, I beg to express my surprise, that you should have declined to grant the very reasonable request which I made. My dispatch to you of 31st July is in these words - "I beg you to direct Commandants of Conscripts to exempt - detail - or furlough Lessees, and their employees, at our State Salt Works, whom I may designate. This matter is important, please answer by telegraph." You reply that "the Department has no power to exempt operatives of Salt-works, unless they contract with the Confederate Government, &c" Ah! I know this before, I regret that I introduced the word "exempt" in my dispatch. I really did not expect you to exempt them, and therefore should have omitted that word; but I did expect, most confidently, that you would direct the detail or furlough of such of the lessees & their employees, as the Executive of Alabama would designate. While you have, properly, stated your want of power to exempt, you have, omitted, inadvertently - I hope, to say whether you would grant the detail or furlough requested, the power to do either not being disputed. I am quite sure that you do not underrate the vast importance of securing an adequate supply of Salt for the people as well as for the Confederate army. We have Saline waters in abundance, which, properly worked, our people are looking for to bring salt. The State owns two reservations, and has leased to two companies, the privilege of manufacturing salt for sale at $1.25 per bushel, & others contracted with the Lessees, to buy their salt on account of the State for general distribution and sale, at cost charges.

Besides these works, the State is now erecting mechanisms of the same character, with the view of increasing the product; and numerous others may be the more profitable, there are, besides, not exceeding half a dozen more, whose services are indispensable for this business, and who are now retained employed; and the removal of such valuable importance, I am unwilling to believe that Hon. G. W. Randolph, Secretary of War of the Confederate States, will, upon this explanation, refuse to grant the reasonable request of the Governor of Alabama, officially communicated, for the retention for the use of those whose services may, by him, be deemed essential to the operation of these works. The pressing wants of the State is my apology for urging the necessity of an early reply.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
(Signed), Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala: Augt 5th 1862.

J. Mc. McConnell, Esq. Scottsville Manufacturing Co

Sir, I accept the proposition contained in your letter of 31st of July, to furnish to the State of Alabama, during the months of September & October, 20,000 yards of Osnaburgs, delivered at Randolph, on the Alabama & Tennessee Rivers Rail Road, of the width of 29½ & 31 inches, weighing— average— 8 oz. to the yard, at 30 cents per yard. Payments will be made, as upon completion may desire, and, should you need an advance, will have no hesitation in making it. You will please ship to Col. W. H. Pickett, C.S.A. at Montgomery.

Very respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Alabama.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala: Augt 8th 1862.

Col. S. P. Moore, M.D, Surgeon-Gen. C. S. A. Richmond.

Sir, I beg leave to call your attention to the situation of several unfortunate families of soldiers, in the Confederate service, who were removed to this place, under Military orders, from their homes, upon the evacuation of Pensacola, and are, now, domiciled in the buildings of the public fair-grounds, in the suburbs of this City. The Confederate authorities furnish them with rations, but no provision has been made for medical attendance or medicines, and any attention has, to any extent, been paid to their pitiable condition, for want of these things, and to the fact that sickness is prevalent among them. The war has largely increased the number of poor sick persons, of the city, dependent upon the charities of citizens, and the corporate authorities, resulting from absence, sickness & deaths in the public service, of those, on whom they depended for support, while many men, helpless & poor, have been added by removal from the County. To these must be added the long list of soldiers moving to and from their regiments, without money or means, who are cared for, nursed and fed at the Soldiers' Home, by the benevolent & providential charity of our citizens, and their wounds and diseases receiving treatment from our City physicians without charge. In consequence, too, of the numbers of patients from the army, in private families, our City physicians, reduced in number, in consequence of the war, find their charity put to the most fully extended and their ability & means well pressed.

In this view, I respectfully submit to your consideration whether, as these families have been cast within the limits of our City, by the Military authorities of the Confederacy, as our City Physicians' must be allowed with a charge proportionate practice for poor families, these families, and the indigent poor sick, at this season, are, & ought to be, provided, that—as soon informed.— the Confederate Government is made able to supply Surgeons, Assistants, Nurses, and Medicines, to the extent of medical relief to the

Permits to remove property should be upon the largest possible scale, and liberal; otherwise it would not be manifestly humane—right & just, to order the Surgeon of the fleet to take them in charge, and furnish them with the attention and medicines, required by them in their diseased. This must, of necessity, increase, unless relieved by the Confederate Government, already heavily burdened. Should you coincide with my views, it will afford me high gratification, to learn that you have extended the proper orders.

I am Respectfully, Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Aug. 9th 1862.

Hon. J. W. Randolph, Secretary of War; Richmond.

Sir; Enclosed, you have letters from R. M. Gilmer, Esq. President of Smith, Marsh & Co. Alabama R. R. Co. requesting information as to the Employees of the Company being exempt from Conscription. The route is now being graded, and has a large number of hands employed in that labor. But the doubt is, whether, until the road becomes a route of transportation, it is embraced by the Exemption act. I have been informed, however, that the Department has already decided this question, upon the application of the Western R. R. Co. of Ala. Connecting this point with Selma, a large portion of which has been graded, but none of the iron yet laid down.

I enclose a Geological map of Alabama, with the route of the Rail-Road marked in red ink, from which, you will see, at a glance, the great importance of the speedy Completion of this road, in aid of the development of the mineral resources of the State.

This work, so important to the best interests of the Confederacy, I am pleased to say, is proceeding rapidly to completion; and tho' I have been misinformed, as to the decision of the Department, in the Case referred to, I would request, if it be not inconsistent with the public interest, that the proper military authority be instructed to detail not exceeding ten of the Managers on the route, whose names may be given by the President of the road, with orders to report to him.

Very Respectfully,
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Aug. 9th 1862.

Messrs H. L. Johnson, Co. Selma, Ala,

Gentlemen, Before leaving here for Cusseta, the Governor instructs me to write to you, to sell the balance of the Salt, belonging to the State after filling orders already forwarded you—in small quantities—say, one half-bushel of twenty-five pounds, to each applicant, who is head of a family, at 10 cts per pound, giving preference to those families who are entirely destitute of Salt, and requiring affidavits, if necessary, of the fact of resident Citizenship of the State, that the applicant is the head of a family, and has not, in hand, more than fifteen pounds of Salt; and that he or she purchases for his or her own use, or the individual use of the person represented by the applicant, and not for sale or speculation.

You will exercise a sound discretion, and if you have reason to suspect fraud—or intended speculation, require satisfactory assurance.

If you should need ½ bushel sacks, Col. Pickett, U.S.N. at this place, will furnish you.

Yours &c
(Signed) W. P. Clayton
Private Secretary.

Executive Department,
Montgomery Ala Augt 8th 1862.

Be it known to all whom it may concern, that I, John Gill Shorter, Gov. of the State of Alabama, in consideration of the due enforcement of the engagements to the undertaking, Elijah W. Evans, Thomas J. Evans, & Robert H. Rogers, of the County of Barbour, in said State, do, hereby license, & authorize the said Elijah W. Evans, Thomas J. Evans, & Robert H. Rogers, to work timber, & materials from any lands or localities belonging to, or under Control of said State, on which said State has, & holds no proprietary rights; provided, nothing herein contained, is intended to authorize any interference with vested rights of other proprietors or settlers, or in any manner, to debar persons claiming any right or rights, in the said State, or the said parties, not given by Law.

(Signed) John Gill Shorter. Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala; August 12th 1862

Hon. Geo. W. Randolph,
Secy. of War, Richmond,

Sir, I beg leave to refer to the enclosed letter from A. S. Storrs, Post Master at Decatur, praying for whose statements are entirely reliable, and, respectfully, that Capt. Wm H. Overton, Aide-de-Camp, Major Bartholomew Berger, Chief Engineer, & Capt. Jno. J. Hazard, Quarter Master, who were present, & saw the operation of the Confederate authorities at the time of the burning of the Cotton, should be directed to appear before the Court of Investigation in this State, to be held at Tuscumbia, with orders to return to their Stations.

Very Respectfully
(Signed) John Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala,

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala; Aug. 15th 1862

Hon. Geo. W. Randolph,
Secy. of War, Richmond,

Sir, I beg leave to refer to the enclosed letters from A. S. Storrs, Post Master at Decatur, praying for whose statements are entirely reliable, and, respectfully, that Capt. Wm H. Overton, Aide-de-Camp, Major Bartholomew Berger, Chief Engineer, & Capt. Jno. J. Hazard, Quarter Master, who were present, & saw the operation of the Confederate authorities at the time of the burning of the Cotton, should be directed to appear before the Court of Investigation in this State, to be held at Tuscumbia, with orders to return to their Stations.

Very Respectfully
(Signed) John Gill Shorter
Gov. of Ala

Copied Aug 16

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, Aug 25th 1862

Hon. J. A. Campbell; Sec. of War. Richd. Va.

Sir,

I am to-day in receipt of a letter from Mr W. H. Ramsay, of Capt. Van de Graff's Company, 5th Ala. Vol. Infantry, stating that he had been, before your, his application for discharge from the service, that he may resume his duties, as the Solicitor of the 7th Judicial Circuit of this State.

The eager patriotism of Mr Ramsay, in common with that of many state officials, induced him to volunteer as a private for three years. The State willingly consented at that time, to the loss of the services of these officers, in the confident expectation that it would only be but a temporary inconvenience. But as the war has been, and is likely to be protracted, the public business must necessarily suffer by their absence; and the loss to the military service of an ordinary private is outweighed by the greater loss to the state of a public officer, indispensable to its weal, & good order.

Mr Ramsay also informs me that his health has been impaired in the service, and he can scarcely render an efficient man.

Under these views, I respectfully ask your favorable consideration of his application, believing, as I do, that the efficient performance of Judicial duties, by a competent officer, is of the utmost importance at a crisis like the present, and desiring that all the Departments in the State shall be filled by their own appropriate officers.

Trusting that you may deem it not incompatible with the public interests to grant this request,

I am, very resp'y
Your obt. Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. Gov of Ala

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala; Aug. 26th 1862.

Hon. J. A. Campbell, Secretary of War, Richmond.

Sir, I respectfully refer to your favorable consideration, the enclosed application of Samuel C. Striplin, Contractor with the State for the manufacture of shoes — for the detail of himself, Jackson Morrison, James Sherlon, Jeptha Smith, & John Knight.

The inevitable heavy draft upon our state for men for the service, which has fallen — & will take so many of our mechanics, renders the very solicitous with respect to clothing & shoes for the Alabama Troops; and it my desire to secure all the labor, which can be spared from active service, for this purpose. Very Resp'y, Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

The State of Alabama)
Montgomery County) Before me, A. Hooker, a Notary Public of said State, personally came Samuel C. Striplin, a resident citizen of Montgomery County, in said State, who, being duly sworn, deposes & says, that he has — and had hired, since the 2nd day of June, 1862, & continuing Contract with the State of Alabama, for the manufacture of shoes for the soldiers of said State, in the Confederate service, the following operatives in his employ, are subject to the Conscription-act, being between the ages of 18 & 35 years, to wit, Jackson, Morrison, a Tanner; and Jarvis Johnson & Jeptha Smith shoemakers, & John Knight, shoemaker; & the said Contractor

are indispensable to carrying said Contracts into effect & the
undersigned thereby indemnified against the operation of said act.
becoming of the age of thirty five years, on the 28th of Sept next. and to make
this affidavit for the purpose & with the design of procuring certificates
dule sworn & subscribed, before me this 22d August 1862
(Signed) Jas. Hartley, Notary Public. Calhoun Co. Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Aug 26th 1862.

Hon. G. W. Randolph Sec'y of War, Richmond.

Sir, I respectfully refer to your consideration, for favorable action,
the enclosed letter of Mr Daniel Wallis, who had a contract with this State,
for the manufacture of 5000 Guns, asking relief of the following operations
& amendments to Complete his Contract.

D. D. Morris, Co. H. 10th Ala. Regt.
J. J. Boykin Co. D. 30th Ala. Regt.

If you deem this request compatible with the interests of the
public service, please direct the detail to report forthwith to Mr
Wallis, Fayetteville Ala.

Very Resp'y Your Obt Serv't
(Signed) M. Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Aug 26th 1862

Hon W. P. Chilton, Richmond.

Sir,

I herewith hand you copies of correspondence had with the
Secretary of War, & Gov Letcher, upon the exemption of the Cadets at the U
niversity of Alabama. To enable you to understand this matter, I have you
a copy of a letter written by me to the State Cadets, on 21st of Oct inst,
and of my Proclamation of 17th May last. Before the passage of the Con-
scription Law, I had notified the Cadets that they would not be accepted
as Volunteers in the new Companies Called for from Alabama. The
letter of the 21st of Feby was written to prevent a total disorganization
of the University. After the troops had been received into Camps, many one
hundred Cadets were detailed, as drill officers, and rendered most valu-
able service, in that Capacity. When the work was over, they were ordered back
to the University, and my Proclamation of 17th May was issued. Those
who were elected to, or obtained Positions in the Army, were honorably
discharged. To force them in as privates in the ranks, after they had
refused as Volunteers, would be unjust to them and destructive. Had they
formed a Military guard, and were, accordingly, Commissioned by the
Executive of the State, they should not be enrolled. Hence, I stated in
my Proclamation of the 17th of May, that they would be exempted
from Conscription. The Cadets of the Military Academy of Georgia, & the
Military Institute, of Randolph Macon College, Virginia, are not being enrol-
led. To prevent any collision between the Confederate & State authorities,
and to preserve the ruderies of Military Science, in this Critical time, are
matters of vital importance, and I earnestly recommend such modi-
fication of the Conscript Law, as will, effectually accomplish the end.

The number of our Cadets, next term, which begins on the first of Novem-
ber, will probably be two-hundred. They will be thoroughly organized,
and under the military control of the State. Should the public service,
need, provided with Ammunition, tents, quarter master & Commissary
stores, and, in case of necessity, with the most efficient organi-
zation - under the Control of the State - and, devoted upon the prompt
execution of orders, would, in this striking attempt to stay & destroy, prove
a fruitful Nursery for conscription.

I have deemed it my duty to enclose you, also, copies of telegraphic correspondence with the Secretary of War, in relation to the details of operatives, connected with our Salt-Works; and a copy of a letter which I felt constrained to write him upon the subject, to which he has, as yet, not favored me with any reply; and from the delay, I have concluded that he has declined further correspondence on the subject. Now, I am a decided friend of the Conscript-Law, and have thrown all my official power, in its favor; but I am sure I had a right to suppose that Alabama would not be denied, by Mr Randolph, the details of a few men, already engaged in our Salt-operations, so essential to our wants. I made the request, not for the accommodation of the man, but as Governor of Alabama, & for the people of Alabama: Read the correspondence, and you will see that Mr Randolph has omitted To answer the request made in my despatch, and now declines answer to my letter of complaint. I trust that I may be pardoned for saying that, in this matter, whether from neglect or purpose, the Secretary of War has placed the people of Alabama under no special obligations of Gratitude to him. Messrs John P. High & Co., who are making Salt for the State, cannot get along without the services of the younger High, who is superintending the Works— and Mr D. G. McEther, State-Commissioner, has two or three men in his employ whose services are indispensable. What are we to do, if these men are taken away? Indeed— not that they should be exempted, but I contended, that these works, of vital necessity to the State, might go on without interruption. We should have a Salt-Famine next Winter. It is now a matter of certainty, to my mind. With all the appliances I have been enabled to bring to bear, for the production of Salt, at our Salt-Springs & on the coast, besides Contracts for over 100,000 bushels to be received from the Salt-works in Virginia, we shall hardly realize over a half-supply of that, under the most favorable circumstances.

In view of the importance of this matter, the Conscript-Law, should be, so far, further modified, as to allow of detail, if not exemption of employees engaged in the manufacture of Salt, on State or public account.

I have thought proper to address this letter to you as the Representative of the Capitol District, but ask that it may be submitted to our Senators & other Representatives, that they all may be informed of the facts, and take such harmonious action as their wisdom may discover for the protection of Alabama.

Very truly, Yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Augt 2d 1862

Dr L. C. Garland, Pres't Univ'y Ala:

Sir; I hasten to forward to you the enclosed Communication to this Department, by numerous citizens of Greene Co, containing statements, as to parties seeking Cadet-ships at the University, well worthy of serious consideration. I am mortified To hear that motives, such as are stated, could influence any in our midst. You will, doubtless, take such steps as may effectually prevent the evils complained of. To this end, we must adhere to the limitation, in the number to two hundred; giving the preference to the applicants for the Confed. Service. Super-added to this, Post Graduates should not be received, and none over 21 years of age, except in clearly-meritorious cases, of all grades, those under 21 should have the preference; and I don't doubt but that in a few weeks, the Corps can well be filled by such applicants. Mr T. B. Marshall, of Mobile, had just written one from the Choctaw Springs, requesting admission for his two sons, about 15 & 14 years of age. Reserve Commissions for them, if you can, & also for young son of Hon. Price Williams of Mobile, who has applied to me.

Very Respectfully
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, Augt 27th 1862.

Gent^n The Communication sent me, under date of the 23^d inst^t in reference to persons applying for Cadet-ships in the University, has been duly examined, & I have, to-day enclosed it to the President of the University, with such directions as I trust will remedy the evil therein mentioned. The President is directed to limit the Corps, as heretofore ordered, to two hundred, and to give preference to those who apply for the longest period, and to who may be under twenty one years of age.

Very Resp^y, Yr obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Pres^t Sam^l Erwin,
Lt^m J. Webb,
Jno G. Harvey,
W. J. Hutchinson et al.
Greensboro' Ala
Circular Letter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Augt 26th 1862.

To the Soldiers'-aid Societies, and the Citizens of Alabama.

In consequence of the difficulty of providing our Soldiers, now in the field, with socks for the coming Fall & Winter, I have to appeal to the Aid-Societies and, generally, to the Citizens of Alabama, through each one's patriotic labors, our troops, up to this time, have been kept in the field. There are, fully, fifty thousand of these troops to be provided for, & it cannot be done without your assistance. Those who are able, it is confidently hoped, will supply them gratuitously; for a large proportion of the army cannot pay for their clothing out of the allowance made by the Confederate Government, at the high prices induced by extortion & speculation. Those who cannot afford to furnish them, gratuitously will be paid, at the rate of fifty cents a pair for heavy cotton, & seventy five cents for good woollen Socks. The aid-societies, and Judges of Probate throughout the State, will act as receiving agents and will forward, at the expense of the State, to Genl Duff Green, 2r mr. Mobile, or to Col Wm R. Pickett, Asst 2r mr. Montgomery, who will make payment for all except gratuitous contributions. The State cannot undertake to forward contributions to individuals, but those made to Companies will be forwarded from Montgomery, without cost to the donors.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, "Gov^r of Ala."

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, Aug 27th 1862

Col. Wm H. Rosser, Comm^g Post, Gainesville, Ala.

Under the requisition made upon the Executive of Alabama, by Maj. Gen. Price, by letter of the 9th inst, a copy of which is enclosed, orders have been given to Maj Gen^l Kirby Smith, commanding 3^d Division, A.N., to raise Five Hundred Troops for the term of thirty days, to report to the Confederate officer in Command at Gainesville, by whom they would be mustered into the Confederate service, for that term. It was presumed, from the letter of Gen^l Price, and the explanations given by Maj Tyler, the officer of his staff bearing the Communication, that the Militia force called for was required, at the earliest day, at the point referred to, to fortify the place, & assume the duties of the Regiment which Gen^l Price withdrawn from that to reach Jacksonville this force, as early as possible. It was deemed advisable to raise it from the local forces, nearest to the point at which they were required; and for the shortest term, for the reason that Troops could be more readily raised for thirty days, than for a longer period. The Regiment, from which Forces the Services of Seventeen, had been, but recently dispersed to a requisition for the defence of Mobile, from which the other positions of the State were supplied, and the declared policy of our Militia System demands that this re-

dered should be equalized. These considerations induced me, therefore, to make the call for three months, for but thirty days, with the intimation that they should then be relieved, and their place supplied by a force of the same character, and for a longer term — say sixty or ninety days, as you might think necessary. I have, to-day, received advices from Gen[l] Hardee informing me that three hundred would arrive at Guinesville on Monday or Tuesday of the present week; and that two hundred more would report, at that Post, early next week. You will find them very poorly equipped, & indifferently armed, the State arms & equipments having been turned over, at the request of the Confederate authorities, to that Government. Gen[l] St. P. Watson, the Chief of the Militia Staff, will hand you this letter, and give all necessary explanations, & information, as to arms, organization &, as may be necessary. He will, also, superintend, & direct the muster-Rolls, so far as the State is concerned, and act in relation to any other matters, in which it may be interested, in connection with this force.

You will please favor me with your views, as to the number of militia-force you will require, at the expiration of the term of the present levies, — their form of organization — time of service — and such other points as will tend — in your opinion — to increase its efficiency.

I have the honour to be, very respy
Your obt Servt
(signed) McGill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Aug. 28th 1862.

Majr Genl G. Swanton, A.A.G. Convt Camp of Instruction.

Sir;

I am in receipt of yours of the 26th inst. requesting the grounds on which the exemption of certain operatives in the Prattville Manufacturing Company is asked, & in reply, enclose you copies of two letters from myself, to the Secy of War, on the subject. These letters were accompanied with the affidavit of Mr Daniel, the Genl Agent of the Company, showing the special & particular employment of each of the operatives, that they were indispensable to the operation of the Factory, and that their places could not be supplied.

In addition to this I would state — of my own knowledge — that the State had heavy Contracts with this Company, for Army-goods and State purposes, and that I am informed, from the most authentic sources, that the Company has heavy Contracts for the Confederate Government; and that no work is turned out by the Company which is not for either the State or Confederate Government.

I beg leave to refer you to Art XI "Exemptions," in relation to Superintendents & operatives, in Wool & Cotton factories, engaged in manufacturing any material of any kind, used in the Service of the State & Confederate Governments."

Very Respy
Your obt Servt
(signed) McGill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, Aug. 29th 1862.

Hon. Messrs. Foster, & Hon. J. L. M. Curry, Representatives to Richmond.

Gentlemen, I am advised that Samuel Figures of Montevillo, — formerly a Mess-te in the war-department, and late a private in the 4th Ala Regt, was in the battle of Manassas, and has continued with the Regt, sharing its fortunes in all the battles in which it has participated, and is now an orderly Sergeant in the Montevillo Guards, in that Regt. Previous to the re-organization of the Regiment, I am informed that his gallant bearing and soldierly qualities induced all the officers to unite in recommending him for promotion, and it was their recommendation, having been forwarded to his father — Hon M. Figures Esq. failed to reach us previous

tion, in consequence of the occupation of Huntsville, by the Feds &c.
Hearing that accident may have interfered to prevent my receipt of your
... in these respectfully request your aid, in placing this case before the proper Department,
for action. Very respectfully, Your obt Servt.
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Aug 30th 1862.

Messrs H. L. Johnston & Co. Selma, Ala.

Gentlemen, I enclose certificates of Deposit, in your favour, with the Central Bank, for $170.50/100, in payment of the account sent, for Impressed labourers at Choctaw Bluff. As this item has to be charged to the Commissary-department of our Military ~~Department~~ fund, I prefer to file your a/c, receipted as it is, and pay you the money, to running the item into your a/c. Sales of Salt &c, which are chargeable to the Quarter-master-Department. Please acknowledge receipt. Very Respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Aug 29th 1862.

Capt. J. A. Pickens, A. A. G. Mobile.

Sir; Enclosed, I send you copies of Salt Circulars, by which you will see the disposition to be made of the 20 Sacks of Salt, received from the works of Jno P. Leigh & Co.

I also enclose you a list of State Agents, with the Counties which they respectively supply.

The Lessees have been instructed to ship, in turn, to each Agent, at their works, out 20 bushels to the Counties which they respectively represent, and to continue those shipments, as often as the quantity on hand will justify. Mobile, as you see, is the place of deposite for the Counties of Mobile, Baldwin, Monroe, Conecuh, Escambia and, on receipt of instalments from the works, apportion it for those Counties, and notify the Judges of Probate, of the amount, & the price. To determine the price, you will add to the cost, at the works, ($1.25/100), the freight, charges, cost of Sacks &c. The last item is estimated at 34 Cents, by the A. A. G. here. The object is, merely, to reimburse the State. The Cash is to be paid by the County-Agents, on delivery, at Mobile. As shipments may be made to care of your office, for Agents on the Alabama river, & the interior, I have forwarded lists, & you will furnish them with accounts, for any expenses paid by you.

Very respy Yrs.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

allowed in Settled to June 30 1862

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, Sept 1st. 1862

Mr. A. M. Henderson, Esqr. Demopolis, Ala

Sir; The Gov instructs me to enclose, to your address, Salt circulars, and to advise you of prospective shipments from the works of Jno P. Leigh & Co, who have been instructed to ship, at the rate of twenty bushels for each County in the Division, to the respective Agents, in rotation. Under this instruction you will receive, shortly, the quota for the Counties of Marengo, Greene, Sumpter & Pickens, in first instalment, for indigent families of Volunteers, and hereafter, other shipments will be made, in regular rotation.

Upon receipt, you will notify the respective Judges of these Counties, of their proportionate quantity belonging to them, and its price, in your hands. The price you will calculate, by adding to the cost to the State, at the works, ($1.25) the cost of Sacks (34 cts), freight and other charges. The County-Agents will pay upon the Cash, on delivery, in Demopolis.

Very respy Yrs
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter
Exec. A. I. S. Legislature

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 1st 1862.

Messrs. J. P. Johnston, Wm. Gibbs, &c.

Gentlemen, You will find enclosed, Salt Circulars, containing information as to the distribution of Salt, made by Messrs. J. P. High, & Co, who have been instructed to ship to the Several Agents of the State in rotation, at the rate of twenty bushels for each County, in their respective Divisions. Under these instructions, you will shortly receive that amount for each of the Counties of Dallas, Perry, Bibb, Shelby, & Jefferson, for distribution by County Authority, among indigent families of Volunteers, in those Counties, and, in proper rotation, you will receive other shipments. Upon receipt, you will notify the respective Judges of Probate, of the quantity to which they are entitled and the price per bushel, which you will estimate, by adding to the cost of the works, ($1.25) the cost of Sacks (34 cts), and freight and other charges. The County Agents will pay you the Cash, on delivery, by you, or order.

The Salt for Talladega, Gen. J. G. L. Macey, Agent, and for Tuscaloosa, Dr. Mr. Gibbs agent, will be forwarded through your House, and you will forward to them, with each shipment, the amount of charges paid by you.

Very respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 1st 1862.

Messrs J. P. High, & Co. Ala Salt Works,

Gentlemen, On account of the greater convenience of supplying the County of Randolph from this place, you will, in future shipments, take from the amount to be shipped to Gen. J. G. L. Macey, Talladega, the quota of Randolph County, and add it to the list of Col. Pickett, Montgomery.

Very resp'y Yrs,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept. 1st 1862.

Messrs J. P. High, & Co., Alabama Salt Works, Clarke Co.

Gentlemen, You will furnish to the Judge of Probate of Washington Co. twenty bushels of Salt, at $1.25 per bushel, being first instalment for aid of indigent families of Volunteers in said County; the furnishing Sacks for same. Deliverable to Judge of Probate, or his order.

Respectfully
Signed Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 1st 1862.

Messrs J. P. High, & Co. Alabama Salt-Works, Clarke Co.

Gentlemen, You will furnish to the Judge of Probate of Choctaw County, twenty bushels of Salt, being first instalment, at the price of $1.25 per bushel—the furnishing Sacks for the same—for indigent families of Volunteers.

Resp'y, (Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 1st, 1862

Messrs Jno. P. High & Co. Alabama Salt works, Clarke Co.

Gentlemen, You will furnish to the order of the Judge of Probate of Clarke Co. twenty bushels of Salt, being first instalment, at the price of $1.25, (the furnishing Sacks for same,) for indigent families of Volunteers

Resp'y

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Sept. 10th 1862.

Hon. C. W. Randolph, Secy of War, Richmond

Sir; I respectfully refer to your consideration, the enclosed application from citizens of Hunterer County, for exemption of James S. Battery, from the conscript act. The petitioners state some peculiar circumstances connected with the case, which would seem to require a favorable hearing.

Very Respectfully, your ob't. Serv't
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department;
Montgomery, Ala, Sept 18th 1862.

Capt. John A. Gibbs, A. D. C. Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Sir; Enclosed, herewith, you will find circulars for your information as to distribution of Salt in the Counties assigned to you; which are Tuscaloosa, Marion, Winston, Marion, & Fayette.

Messrs J. P. Figh & Co. have been notified to ship, in relation, to the several depositories, twenty bushels, for each County embraced in the Agents list, for distribution, by the Counties, among the indigent families of Volunteers; and the first instalment of 20 bushels, for each of the Counties named, will be shipped, in a few days, via Selma, & Rail-Road, care of H. L. Britton, Esq. Selma, whom you can advise, as to the point of reception Rail-Road. Upon receipt, you will advise the respective Judges of Probate, of quantity & price, which estimate by adding to prime cost (.1.25), cost of sack, (34 cts), freight & charges. The cash to be paid, on delivery by you to them, at Tuscaloosa. You will observe the same rule with each succeeding shipment, until otherwise notified, and shipments will be made, via Selma, until the river rises - or you otherwise direct.

Resp'y yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department;
Montgomery, Ala. Sept. 20th 1862

Messrs Wm H. Thornton, Jno McNab, Wm H. Chambers. Eufaula, Ala.

Gentlemen; I have seen, with pleasure and satisfaction, the call for a Convention of the people at Eufaula, on the 10th day of this month, to consider the question of, I hope, to secure the means for the defence of the Chattahoochee River, against the enemy, during the coming Winter. As a private citizen, personally interested, in consequence of the locality of my planting interest, in the valley of the Chattahoochee, I am ready to attend, to labor or any other way - consistent with my ability - to aid the object contemplated, and, as the Chief Executive of Alabama, I will, as such officer, give all needful and proper support to the resolves of the Convention. And having, heretofore, appointed you Commissioners to act in behalf of the State, your authority is further extended, for that purpose, and I shall be happy to sustain you in any measures which, as such Commissioners, you may deem practicable, for the better protection of our people. There may be - and - I trust - are good reasons to hope that the enemy may be prevented, by the foresight and vigilance of the Confederate Government, from any destructive raids up the Chattahoochee river; but the depredations of the past, and the enlarged energies which are unscrupulously forth, for continued depredations upon our coast, and contiguous rivers, should induce earnest & vigorous efforts, to baffle and defeat him. What plans of defense promise most success, the Convention, in its wisdom, will be better enabled, after full consultation, to determine. I will only remark, that Cannon, ammunition, men to handle them, can be obtained, alone, from the Confederate War Department; and that if batteries are to be relied upon, their of vital importance to obtain heavy guns; and, in the absence of these, an entire total obstruction of the river, at different Commanding positions, will be found, in my judgement, the best defence. And if obstructions be fixed in the river, and, in addition, batteries to command them, be planted upon the banks, as we have succeeded in fine Training for the Coast, & from keel boats, the channel of the river will be very greatly enhanced. Allow me to add, that no time is to be lost, in entering upon this necessary work.

Very respectfully, Your ob't Serv't (Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 3rd 1862.

Capt. W. D. McCathall, Comm'g Camp Hoi Valla-lega, Ala.

Sir, The enclosed letter from Dr Garland, Pres't Univ. Ala. is, respectfully, forwarded, for your information & consideration. I refer you to the Doctor's letter for the facts, and remarks only, that in fair construction of the exemption-Act would not subject a teacher to conscription, during vacation, which, from immemorial usage, has been considered a necessary adjunct to the occupation of a teacher; and, further, that the Law cannot look at motives, unless in those cases, where motive constitutes an essential part of the requirements or the offense; and that the fact that a teacher has as many as twenty scholars, is a cause of exemption full & sufficient— without regard to the motive which impelled him to teach.

In this case, you have a teacher, by profession, in the vacation of his regular school, undertaking— and actually teaching a school, & having as many as twenty scholars. I trust, with this statement of facts, you will, at once issue orders to your enrolling officer to release Mr Powell from enrolement.

Very Resp'y, Yrs
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter. Gov of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept. 4th 1862

Henry Smith, Esq, Nicholasburg,

I dispatched you, on the 29th ult. to Nicholasburg—care of Duff Green, &c, that the State of Alabama would enter the contract for Wool, made with J. R. Valentine & Co. on the 15th of August last, for one hundred and fifty thousand pounds.

Hearing that papers may not have received the dispatch, I now advise you of the extension of the contract, by letter.

Very Resp'y, Yr obt Serv't
(signed). Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala; Sept 3rd 1862.

Hon. A. R. Boteler;

Dear Sir, To encourage the people of your section to engage in the manufacture of salt, at the Virginia salt-works, & will advance them funds if needed, to stock their works, on condition that they execute a bond, to repay the amount with 8 per cent interest, in Salt, delivered to the State agent at Saltville, Virginia, on board the Rail-road (ring at $1.75, per bushel of 50 lbs, the State furnishing the sacks. The salt to be made and delivered, by the middle of January next.

Yours, respectfully,
(signed). Jno Gill Shorter.

P.S. Please suggest a further condition that all the salt made, to spend what is turned over to the State, must be shipped to Alabama, and, after supplying the family-wants of the Companies, must be sold to citizens of Alabama, for their home-consumption, and at a price— not exceeding $. 5.00 per bushel.

Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, Sept 9th 1862

Capt. Isaiah H. Speed, Asst Q. M. Master, &c Ala.

Sir, You will proceed to Saltville, Virginia, to superintend the purchase & shipment of Salt contracted for by me, for the people of this State. You are, herewith, furnished with a copy of the Contract entered into by the State, by your Brother and Secretary of State, with Powell, Graves & Co. and Powell, Graves & Co. have also furnished you with a copy of their contract with the State, by which you will be governed, in the discharge of your duties. Capt Powell, Graves & Co. will furnish you with transportation, from Saltville to the Virginia & Tennessee Rail-road, at the usual rates. You will, on your arrival at Saltville, report to Capt Powell, Graves & Co. for instructions, and will be governed by their directions, in the discharge of your duties, so far as they may be consistent with the interests of the State. You will, from time to time, report to this office, the progress you are making in the discharge of your duties, and the quantity of salt received by you, on account of the State. You will also report to this office, the number of hands employed by Powell, Graves & Co. and the number of wagons employed in transporting salt to the Rail-road. You will also report to this office, the number of hands employed by Powell, Graves & Co. and the number of wagons employed in transporting salt to the Rail-road.

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connecting North and South Alabama with the Head-quarters, were commenced for the transportation, from points of the Mobile and Montgomery R.R. which is now, and it is to be hoped, that as the purpose contemplated is to supply this necessary article to the people of Alabama, for immediate home consumption, and at only, cost to charges to the State, the various Rail Road Companies will be disposed to make liberal arrangements, to enable the State authorities to accomplish this laudable purpose. The places of deposit, within the State, and the names of the State-Agents of the same, will be communicated to you by mail, at Chattanooga. Funds required will be duly forwarded, by Express, or otherwise, as they may be needed. Relying upon your energy & fidelity, &c.,

Respectfully yours.

(Signed) John Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 6th 1862

Mr. J. C. Dubois, Greensboro'

Dear Sir, As having been found politic to limit the new admissions into the Corps of Cadets, at the University, to those under twenty one years of age, & Col. L. C. Garland having advised me, that your application for admission had been refused, because you are beyond that age, I desire to inform you that your Commission, as a Cadet, issued from this Department, is, hereby, revoked.

Very resp'y. Yours,

(Signed) John Gill Shorter. Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept. 6th 1862

Col. L. C. Garland, University of Ala;

Dear Sir, Your letter of the 29th August, from Elyton, reached me yesterday. In reply to the question of exemptions Mr Gassage, Chief of the Tailoring Department of the University, and of Mr Baker, journeyman-tailor, I have to say, that they are not embraced in my proclamation of the 17th May last, and not being Commissioned, under the seal of the State, I have not the power to interfere. I regret any inconvenience, which their removal may occasion, but these are days for sacrifices, and I hope you may be able to supply their places. Your acceptance of the Colonel's Commission, under the State Seal, is received with pleasure. I will thank you to advise me of the present military organization of the Corps, and how far you can consent to be under the Military Control or orders of the Executive of the State. As I shall have occasion to embrace, in my message to the Legislature, matters relating to the University, any information upon the subject will be welcomed. My present purpose, (this information is confidentially to you) is to convene the Legislature, two weeks in advance of the regular Session.

I have written Mr J. C. Dubois, Greensboro', revoking his Commission, and send you a copy of my letter to him. I do not know the enrolling officer at Greensboro'. Your action in this matter, is highly proper, and, I doubt not, under your discreet management, all will go well with the University. I regret the loss of the 20 Cadets mentioned. How did this occur? The number brought here, and turned over to the Quartermaster, were shipped back to the University. Gen'l Lyon has been instructed to supply the number wanted, but they will have to be made, & it will take some time. Please correspond with him, on the subject. Write me how many Cartridge-boxes you are now wanting. I think they may be supplied at once. Please inform me how many pieces of Artillery the Corps now has, their size and attachments. 3 Brass guns cannot be had at present. Ascertain what a couple of iron 6-pounders can be made for, with Carriage &c. complete, say at each & Ammn.

Mr. H. D. Peterson's A/C at receipt came duly to hand. Shoes can be obtained from the Penitentiary & all made there are secured for our Soldiers in the field.

I send a pass-port for Captain Gibbs.

Very resp'y.
Yours.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 6th 1862.

Hon. W. S. Lyon, &
Hon. C. J. Faulkner, House of Representatives, Richmond

Gentlemen, For your better information in relation to the subject of your dispatch, I herewith, enclose copy of a letter to this Department from Maj. Gen. Price, copy of a letter to Col. Rogers, commanding post, at Gainesville; and copy of his reply. On receipt of Gen. Price's letter, Gen. Forney, at Mobile, was, immediately, dispatched, to know if he could spare the force, & he replied, that he could not. Inclose copies of these dispatches, also. Under these circumstances, there was no alternative left me, but to draft a Militia-force. In view of the work to be done at Mobile, in anticipation of attacks, this coming Fall, & Winter, and the wholly inadequate force, & means of defense, against an infuriated foe, prepared, as he certainly will be, with every facility, and powerful armament of guns & men, I did not feel authorised, after this Statement by Gen. F to appeal to the Secretary of War, to withdraw any portion of his Command, nor do I now believe that it would be politic, or safe to do so. With all the facts before you, I doubt not that you will concur in my Conclusion.

I regret, profoundly, the pressure of this cruel War, but our people must learn to acquiesce, with good will, in the severe burdens it imposes, and to uphold - and sustain the military authorities, in their efforts to secure the general defense.

Very respectfully, Yours,
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 8th 1862.

Messrs. H. L. Johnson, & Co. Selma, Ala:

Gentlemen, I have, this day, issued instructions to Col. Pickett, A. D. C. to ship to you, one hundred & twenty five Sacks of Salt. Of this quantity you will ship to Col. R. Jemison jun. Tuscaloosa, Ala. Fifty Sacks, & to Genl. G. L. Mabry, Talladega, Fifty Sacks. They will be instructed from this Department, as to the disposition to be made of the Salt, when received. The remaining Sacks of the lot you will sell at Selma, as heretofore directed, to supply citizens of Shelby, Bibb, Perry, and Counties adjoining Selma, at such price as will net the State fifteen dollars per Sack, at Selma.

Very respectfully, Yours,
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

P.S. As this Salt much resembles that made at the Clarke Co. works, it is proper to explain, that it is Salt from Va. taken, in exchange for Liverpool Salt of the State seized by the Confederate Government, in Mississippi.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 8th 1862

Genl. G. L. Mabry, Talladega, Ala.

Sir, Messrs H. L. Johnson, & Co. of Selma have been instructed to ship to you, Fifty Sacks of Salt, to be apportioned by you, for supply of the Counties of Marshall, DeKalb, Cherokee, St. Clair, Calhoun & Talladega; & sold by you under the restrictions contained in former instructions, at such price as will net the State fifteen dollars per Sack at Selma, apportionment, among the Counties, named, subsequently, as Provided. As this Salt much resembles that made by Messrs J. P. Rights & Co. many of our people are of opinion, that the state is speculating upon their necessities, & it may be necessary to explain, that this is the last of a lot of Virginia Salt, received from the Confederate Government, through Judge Walker, in exchange for State Salt, taken by the Confederacy in Mississippi, and is to cost to the State the same with is to Liverpool Salt.

Very respectfully, Yours,
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 8th, 1862.

Col. R. Jemison jun. Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Sir; Messrs R. L. Johnson & Co. have been instructed to forward, to your Depot, fifty sacks of salt, intended to supply the Citizens of Marion, Sugarville, Centreville, Tuscaloosa, Jefferson, Pickens, & Winston, as equally as possible, to be divided among the several Counties, and to be sold under the restrictions, but at such price, as shall yield to the State fifteen dollars per sack net returns — its cost to the State, at this point. The salt now sent is the last of the Virginia salt, received from the Confederacy, in exchange for our Liverpool salt, taken by the Government, in the State of Mississippi, and from its resemblance to our State salt, is, sometimes, mistaken, by the People, for Wright & Co's salt. You will direct Messrs Johnson & Co, as to proper shipments.

Respy, Yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Sept. 9th 1862.

Brig. Gen.e Jno. K. Jones, Head-quarters, Mobile.

Sir; I have carefully considered your letter of the 5th inst, in relation to prisoners in your custody, or rather arrested by the military power within your command, and now avail myself of the first convenient opportunity to reply to your enquiries.

Such prisoners as have been arrested for violations of your military orders, case, and should be tried by a Court-Martial. "A celebrated law-writer says, when martial is declared or proclaimed in a place, all the citizens are subjected to the severity of military regulations." Ordinarily, the order proclaiming martial Law, defines the extent to which it interferes with customary Civil Regulations. In most, if not all the cases which have fallen under my observation, our military officers have not interfered, at all, with the Civil jurisdiction, and as to all legal rights & remedies provided for Society, they have been uninterrupted. The object aimed at & secured, has been, by cumulative military orders, to protect the army & the Country, through such stringent provisions, as time, circumstance, & place required, in the absence of sufficient safe-guards, under the Civil authority. As these regulations are purely military, it follows that those, who violate them, can be tried and punished, only, by the same military power which adopted them. The military tribunal is the Court-martial & Provost-Marshall, and its decision, made & approved, and executed, according to the Army regulations of the Confederate States, must, from the very necessity of the case, be final & conclusive. And in this view — which is the correct view of the question — it will make no difference whether the writ of Habeas Corpus has been suspended or not, provided an order has been proclaimed, establishing Martial-Law, and thus bringing the Citizens within the named District, under the stringency of military regulations. For, a discreet judge, while, in the absence of an order by the President (who alone has the power to issue the order) suspending the writ of habeas Corpus, he could not refuse to grant the writ, would, after the prisoner had been brought before him, and it had been shown that the prisoner was in custody of the military power, within the District, where Martial Law had been proclaimed, remand him to custody, on the ground that the Civil Tribunal had no jurisdiction. It is plain, therefore, that, in the portions of your Command, when Martial Law has been declared, those who violate the Military Orders, are triable by Court-martial alone or the Provost-Marshall, and, as to them, the suspension of the writ of Habeas Corpus is a dead letter, affecting no material difference. But the suspension of the Writ is intended to operate, immediately, & directly upon those guilty of, or charged with violations of the Criminal Laws of the State, or of the Confederate Government. Where a person (called — decided Jeffersonian by the President, he suspends the writ, and then, within the District named, Political Offenders may be arrested, & imprisoned, & held, for further disposition, in such places as the Secretary of War may designate. There are many cases of a purely civil character, which do not affect the military operations of the State, in which cases of the writ, in this case, [illegible]

[redacted]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 10th 1862

Hon. G. W. Randolph, Secretary of War, Richmond, Virginia.

Sir, I duly received your letter of 23d ult. in reply to mine of — ult. relating to the detail of employees at the Salt-works of the State. While differing in opinion from the views expressed by you, I am still obliged for the recommendation contained in your report, as to exemption of Salt-makers. There is, now, great reason to apprehend a Salt-famine, during the coming winter, and it is a matter of vital importance, to give the greatest possible encouragement & impetus to the manufacture of Salt.

Upon a review of my letter of 7th ult. I find in it some expressions, which in my present temper, I would not have introduced, but writing under an impatient & disappointed spirit, I was betrayed into their use - but I am certain that my earnest purpose to subserve the interests of Alabama, & not to any willful to detract the equanimity of the Secretary of War, for whose personal & official character I have a very high admiration.

Respy. Yr obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter Gov of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 10th 1862

Capt. Charles D. Lieber, Chief of Engineers, Mobile.

Sir: I had promised myself, a visit, before now, to your City, to confer further upon the subject of our Water-defenses. Any assistance, which the State-authorities can render the Commanding General, shall be furnished. Information, such as may be proper for you to communicate, in relation to the present Condition of the defenses for Mobile, and others, in progress, or contemplated, and, also as to the present condition of the works, on the Alabama, and Tombigbee rivers, and others proposed, I shall be happy to receive at your convenience.

There is, as I am persuaded, you fully realize, an imperative necessity to urge on our batteries and fortifications, with all possible dispatch; and, for the better security & protection of the Capitol of the State, and the invaluable Armories, foundries, and machine-shops, as well as the population within the heart of the State, additional formidable works are urgently demanded.

Very Respy, Yr obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. Gov of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept. 11th 1862.

Genl. R. Jemison, jun: Tuscaloosa,

Dear Sir, I am in rec't, by yesterday's mail, of your letter of 7th inst, and deeply regret that any citizens of Alabama should be so misguided, as to arm themselves, within our own limits, to aid the enemies of their State. The prompt & immediate energy you have displayed, in, at once, proceeding to make yourself the defence of loyal citizens, & to effect the capture of the insurgents if practicable, is worthy of all Commendation. Col. Clanton has been authorized to raise State-troops, for the defense of North Alabama, to aid in driving the Enemy out, South of the Tennessee River, & he left Tuesday, for the Mountains. From dispatches, to-day received, I have I believe that the Enemy have abandoned, & evacuated the whole of North Alabama. If so, & your Cavalry hear of Col. Clanton, can render his services, in need of the arrest of the disaffected, and disloyal, Men in Winston. If they are apprized that the Enemy have left, they will readily dismount-or-seek to escape, but if he, you will succeed in the capture, at least, of the Ringleaders.

I ordered 56 sacks of Salt to be shipped to you on Monday last. Our supply here, except some from Night-Hawk Works, for local distribution, among indigent families of Soldiers, is entirely exhausted.

Very Truly, Yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

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Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, Sept 12th, 1862

Messrs McClung & Jaques, Knoxville, Tennessee.

Gentlemen: In accordance with your telegraphic dispatch, of 2nd inst. I forwarded to you, by Express, Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000) on the 3rd inst: And, on that day, notified you, by Telegram. Please advise me whether the money has been received.

It appears to me, that it will be most convenient for you and the State, for me to deposite in one of your banks in Knoxville, to the credit of the State-Agent, and direct him to check, in your favor, for future payments, as shipments may be made, and in such amounts, as shall be mutually satisfactory. Please reply to this suggestion.

And now, Gentlemen, pardon me for informing you of the great destitution of salt in Alabama, & for the expression of my most earnest desires for your success in its manufacture, in the largest quantities, & the most expeditious mode. I flatter myself that you will render Capt Sheed all possible aid in securing prompt transportation. We have a large number of Three-Bushel Sacks, already prepared, & many more making, and will have a supply at Salt-ville, as soon as needed.

Your obt Svt.
(signed) J. McGill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala: Sept 12th 1862.

Capt. J. N. Sloocher; Cuban, Ala,

Sir; Your Letter of 22nd August, to Judge Phelan, has been forwarded to me, by him, and I have sent a copy to Capt. Sicrnur, Chief of Engineers, Mobile, with a letter, a copy of which is, herewith, enclosed.

For a proper understanding of the whole matter, by yourself & your neighbors, it is proper that I should say, that the construction of defences on the Rivers, was first suggested by the State-Authorities, and intended to be undertaken and completed by the State. In consequence of the impossibility of procuring the services of competent Engineers, Gen. Forney was applied to furnish an Engineer to lay-out the Works, & sent Capt. Sicrnur, his Chief of engineers, who assumed the responsibility of the entire work, for the Confederacy.

The extent of the works requiring more than thirty days' labor, the hands were detained, by Military order of the Confederate officers, & after their discharge, more labor was found necessary to complete them & place them in condition for complete defence. For this purpose, Gen. Forney issued his requisition for one hundred & fifty additional hands, fixing the rate of Compensation, and his requisition was simply extended through this Department.

You will see, by the Copy enclosed, the views which I entertain & have presented to Capt. Sicrnur; and I could take no other, without involving such complication of accounts, as would render their proper adjustment impossible.

Many voluntary contributions were made, in labor upon the fortifications, for which no account has been made, and, in very many instances, parties who had no slaves, or, who could not conveniently send them, furnished money or provisions, in amounts varying from fifty to five hundred dollars, all of whom would be entitled to the refunding of their money, upon the same principle which would allow the payment of voluntarily-contributed labor, of hands, rations &c.

I deem it just that payment should be made for labor impressed & detained, as well as for tools used, & retained by the Government: & the Act I was done by order of the Engineer Department, I do not doubt that Capt Sicrnur will accede to the justice of the demand, and furnish the necessary instructions, which will be forwarded to you as soon as it shall be known. I shall deem it a duty to call Fleet

tention of the Legislature to the matter, that provision may be made for the payment

Very Respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, Sept 12th 1862

Messrs. Jno. P. Hale, & Co. Salt Works,

Gentlemen, In the memorandum furnished you, for distribution & shipment of Salt, the County of Randolph was included in the list of Counties to be supplied at Talladega. It is now found more convenient to supply Randolph County from the Montgomery Depot, & you will please alter your list or memorandum accordingly.

Respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter, Gov. of Alabama.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept. 12th 1862.

Col. [illegible] Lienau, Chief of Engineers, Mobile.

Sir, The enclosed letter from Col. Tillocker, copy of was forwarded by Judge Phelan to this department, and I respectfully refer it & subject to you, for your consideration.

While I do not see the propriety of paying for Labor voluntarily contributed, there does seem to me good reason why the Confederate Government should pay for the time of detention, after the expiration of the term of voluntary contribution, and for such tools, as were detained by military orders, probably for the transportation home; as such detention could not be considered voluntary, nor intended or expected by the owners. If your accord with my views, and deem such demands a proper charge against the Engineer Department, you will confer a favor, by informing me, as to the proper manner of certifying the accounts for payment, that the parties may be notified by this Department.

Very Resp'y. Your obt Servt.
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 9th 1862.

Circular.

To the Judges of Probate, of the State of Alabama.

It is deemed important, in the present condition of the Country, to ascertain, with as much approximate accuracy as possible, before the approaching Session of the Legislature, the probable quantity of provisions, as well as Cotton, raised in the State the present year. With the view of ascertaining, as nearly as may be, the actual condition of the State, in this respect, I respectfully, ask that you fill up, & return to this Department, by the middle of October next, answers to the inquiries herein propounded, as full & complete as the information at your command, will allow.

1. What quantity of land, in your County, has been planted in Corn, as compared with last year, and what the probable yield?
2. What is the comparative increase or diminution in the quantity of land planted in Cotton, as compared with last year, & what the probable yield?
3. Will the grain crop be sufficient for the support of the citizens of your County, for the ensuing year?
4. If there is any deficiency, how great will that deficiency be — if any excess what will be the probable surplus?
5. What is the probable supply of meat (Hogs & Cattle), in your County; if any deficiency, to what extent; if surplus, how much?

Entire accuracy is not expected, but you will endeavour to approximate, as closely as practicable, from the information derived, by you, from the different parts of the County.

Respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter,

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[illegible] Act,

Sect. 8. Be it further enacted, That the Governor is hereby authorized to take possession of all the Salt in State, on Ship board, or held for sale, — for the public use, & for other purposes.

Sect. 9. And be it further enacted, that from & after the approval of this act, by the Governor, it shall be unlawful for any person, except an Agent of this State, or of the Confederate States, to send any salt out of this State, or to sell salt to any person, to be sent or carried out of this State, without the consent of the Governor.

Sect. 10. And be it further enacted, that any person, who shall violate any of the provisions of the 9th section of this act, shall be liable to indictment, and, on conviction, shall be fined in any sum the jury may assess, not less than five hundred — nor more than five thousand dollars: and, at the discretion of the jury trying the case, may be imprisoned in the Penitentiary, for any period, not exceeding five years

(Approved, Nov 9th 1861)

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept. 9th 1862.

The above extracts, from the act named, are published for the better information of parties engaged in the manufacture & sale of Salt. Citizens of other States, who may make Salt on the Coast of Alabama, or under lease of private lands, for their individual consumption, & not re-sale, or who may import Salt for transit to other States, are cheerfully, accorded the right to ship it beyond the State. No other shipments are legalized, without special authority from this Department.

Jn° Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery Ala. Sept. 13th 1862

Lt. A. G. McGehee, Commissioner & Supt. Int. of Ala. Salt-Works, Clarke Co

Dear Sir, Information has reached this Department, that parties are selling Salt in Clarke Co. to be carried out of the State. Such proceedings are, in violation of Law, and to put the people on their guard; as some of them may be, in fact, ignorant of our legislation on the subject I have forwarded, to you, hand-bills containing extracts from the law which you are requested to have posted, at every location, where parties are engaged in Making Salt.

You will, also, take pains to notify all persons on the State-Reservations, that their right to locations is limited to the privilege of making Salt, for their own use, and if they wish to make for Sale, they can obtain that privilege, on precisely the same terms as mess Hight & have done. And should parties, without obtaining a lease, violate this order, you are directed to seize their kettles, & furnaces, and turn them for the benefit of the State. With those desiring to make leases, you are, hereby, authorized to Contract upon the Terms mentioned.

Very Resp'y Yrs
(Signed) Jn° Gill Shorter.
Executive Department

Montgomery, Ala. Sept. 13th 1862

Wm. M. M. Patton, Thomasville, Clarke Co. Ala.

My dear Sir, I am in receipt of your interesting letter of the 9th, and while I am highly gratified to learn that the enemy has evacuated the locality of the Tensas — I much regret to learn — I most sincerely condole with Judge Walker, and those of our Citizens who have suffered so severely by their Vandalism. There is no way — I am satisfied — to arrest it, except by the sternest retaliation, on the part of our Government, and for every negro taken, as well as every other species of private property, taken from our Citizens by contributions, to the full value, should be seized upon the Union-men of Kentucky, Maryland, & every other place, where they can be enforced, by our arms. Unless some course of this kind

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ir indefensible, we may expect these entrances to increase with the approaching
In relation to the defences which are necessary to prevent the re-occupation of
North-Alabama, I entirely agree with you in opinion. If the Confederate Gov-
ernment is unable or unwilling to place that section of the country in security,
the State should, at least, make the attempt. Should it cost millions of money,
it should be done. The great difficulty will be the obtaining of heavy Ordnance,
shot, shell, & powder, which it is impossible for the State to command. Every foun-
dry & powder-mill being already under Contract with the Confederacy for every-
thing they can turn out in the way of Ordnance or ammunition. Tennessee, however,
is so important to the Protection of our armies in Virginia and the Carolinas,
that I hope we shall not fall into the same error in relation to it, that we fell into
in last Spring. A full examination should be made of the Tennessee River
Land, by Competent Engineers, with instructions to report defences which would
make them impregnable — or as near it as possible, and they should be made
at any cost. The possession of North Alabama & Tennessee, for a few months on-
ly, would cost their citizens tenfold the amount it would take to defend them
successfully, to say nothing of the disheartening effect upon the Cause, and the
encouragement it would give the Enemy. I have given my views generally, but briefly,
& shall urge them upon the War-department, to the best of my ability, and to ensure,
if possible, the Co-operation of the State. Should it be necessary, it is my present inten-
tion to convene the Legislature on the last Monday in October.

I have given particular attention to what you say, in relation to obtaining sup-
plies of Cloth &c, from the Factories, and, without hesitation, avail myself
of your kind offers. If you could purchase, for me, good heavy Osnaburgs say
75000 Yards, 7/8, at not exceeding 20 cents, and the same amount of Grey Woollens
at from $.1. to $.1.50. I prefer to do so, rather than impress them, for our Soldiers must
be kept in the field, and it is impossible to give them any thing like efficiency,
without providing clothing; and, in fact, the cloth must be had, though I,
of Course, should greatly prefer to purchase it, if it can be done at reasonable
rates. Please give my kindest remembrances, & most sincere condolences to
Judge Walker, and accept them for yourself. I hope you may be agreea-
bly surprised, in finding Sweet-Water unharmed. Let me hear from
you, as to the cloth, as early as possible, and believe me,

Truly Your friend,
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

## Proclamation
## By the Governor of Alabama.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Sept. 15th 1862.

The preparations making by the Lincoln Despotism, for invasion of
our coast & rivers the coming Winter, & the disasters which have befallen the
Confederacy, in the past, for want of timely and adequate means of defence, ad-
monish us to diligence, in securing proper safe-guards for the future. Every pre-
caution is being used to strengthen the Defences of Mobile Bay, as to defy the assa-
saults of the Enemy; but it is, nevertheless, the dictate of prudence to provide
for the possibility of failure, & in such event to be ready to check the progress of the
Enemy into the interior of the State. This, it is believed, can be effectually done
by well-constructed Batteries, with heavy guns, and brave & skilful men
to fight them. The successful repulse of the Enemy's gun-boats at Petersburg and
Drury's Bluff, have demonstrated the practicability of land-water fortifications
to contend with even iron-clad war-vessels. To construct such works, large
Labor forces are required, and the Engineer-Department of the Confederate
States' army has made a requisition upon the State, for two hundred ad-
ditional negro-boys & hands, to complete the works already constructed on
the Alabama & Tombigbee rivers, and to make them, if possible impregnable.
Orders will be, forthwith issued to the military authorities of the State to carry
Contributions to supply this force. Those of the lines not heretofore called
out, will now have an opportunity to exhibit their patriotism & zeal in a
practical response to this call.

transportation, subsistence, and medical treatment will be furnished, and compensation, to the owners, of seventy-five cents per day, will be paid by the Engineer Department of the Confederate States Army. Owners must provide clothing and a shovel or spade for each laborer sent. One white man should accompany every twenty-five, or thirty negroes sent, to overlook their conduct & see that they are properly cared for. To such, transportation, & subsistence will be furnished, and they will be paid two dollars, per day, compensation if required. The State is fortunate in having secured officers of skill, to superintend the defenses already commenced, & to plan & direct the construction of additional works, in contemplation. Further requisitions for slave-labor may be expected; and I am confident that Alabamians will meet, with alacrity, all demands, which may be made upon them, for the protection & security of the State.

In testimony whereof, I, John Gill Shorter, Governor of the State of Alabama, have hereunto set my hand, and caused the great Seal of the State to be affixed, This, the 15th day of September, A.D. 1862 and of the Independence of the Confederate States, the second Year.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

By The Governor,
(Signed) P. H. Britton, Secy of State.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 16th 1862.

Mrs Laura Pillans, President of Soc'y for the relief of Soldiers' children,
Mobile, Alabama.

My Dear Madam, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, pleading in behalf of the destitute children of Soldiers, in the Confederate service, from the City of Mobile, and have been profoundly impressed by its historic[al] have my deepest sympathies been aroused in behalf of these little ones, left to the uncertain watch-care, & provision of the Country, but my admiration has been excited for those patriotic & beloved women of Mobile, who have, with tender solicitude, undertaken the task of providing for their wants. All you have been pleased to say of the promptness of Mobile to the call of our invaded Country is eminently true, & far more. She has poured out her blood like water, and her devoted sons have fallen upon—and consecrated every battle-field, where glorious Victory has crowned our arms. And not only Mobile—but every section of this proud Commonwealth has freely sent its jewels, and laid them, uncomplainingly, upon the altar of our Country. All over the State—in city, town, & Country, are widows, & orphans—destitute—want, the bequests of anxiety & cruel war. The scene presents an occasion for Legislative interposition, which alone, can fill the Treasury, and administer timely, & appropriate relief. I would rejoice if it were in my power to bring official aid in behalf of your noble charity. But the State Treasury is sealed to every call, save such as which present the Legislative sanction. Not many weeks will elapse, before the General Assembly is called together, and provision for the indigent families of our brave Soldiery shall be prayed of you their consideration; and I doubt not that some wise, and efficient measures will be adopted, to befriend, as gratitude to our Country's defenders has imposed them on us as imperative duty.

With high considerations of regard,
I have the honor to be, Madam,
Your friend & Ob't Serv't,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 17th 1862.

Gen C. J. McRae, Selma! Dear Sir. The fear of a half-famine is exciting the public mind. This apprehension is not without good reason. Yet our future wants are vast, and to make much salt, a great many hands and hands must be had. Hundreds should get to

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work on the Coast, as well as at the Salt-wells on the Bigbee, if they cannot obtain the pans. What are we to do? Where can they be had? Many applications are making to me, and if our foundries will not cast them, we are ruined! We know all the iron Companies & shops in the State; please write me immediately the end in view. Is there not much iron to be had, not reducible for gun-metal? Where is it? My opinion has been, that all pig-iron was not reducible for gun metal, and Col. Gorgas, in his order of 9th of July last, authorizes the Shelby Co. iron-works "to cast kettles, but not to use iron suitable for gun metal." Now, in all seriousness, these vessels must be had, and it will not be wise, in the iron companies to refuse a supply, and excite the people to an appeal for Legislative interposition. There is danger in such a course. And I beg you to aid me, in effecting some plan, by which this unfortunate result may be averted.

Respy ays.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 17th 1862

Hon. S. R. Mallory, Secretary of the Navy.

My dear Sir, I cannot help feeling very great anxiety in relation to the defences of Mobile — the only Gulf-port which is left us. I am satisfied that the death struggle is to come with the coming Winter & Spring, and if we can hold our own until the Summer, we may regard the War as, virtually, over. To do this, however, will demand all the resources which our utmost energies can supply. Should they take Charleston, Savannah, & Mobile, God only can tell when the war will end, or what will be the final result. If Congress will be true to themselves and the country I have no fears of the issue on land; but I must confess, I have a wholesome dread of the marine power of our foe. I have but little confidence in the defenses at Mobile, and on the Alabama & Bigbee rivers against the force, that, I am sure, will be brought against them. If it should cost ten Millions of dollars to make them impregnable, it would be as nothing, in a pecuniary point of view, to the actual loss our Citizens would sustain, if the attack upon them should prove successful, to say nothing of the moral effect upon our own people & our adversary. The River batteries once passed, the heavy Slave-holding Counties of the State, with near two hundred thousand of that population, would be completely at their mercy; the Government Workshops & foundries at Selma & Gainesville be destroyed, & the rail-road connexion, at this point, be cut-off. Our only difficulty in making these defenses impregnable, so far as I can learn, will be the want of heavy guns, and a full supply of Shot, Shell & powder. All the labor necessary for the construction of the batteries, and Strengthening the obstructions, can be had; all that we shall require to bring security are heavy ordnance & ammunition, and it is to you my dear Sir, that I must look to supply them. If the co-operation of the State in any direction which you may suggest, can, in the slightest degree, aid or assist you, in accomplishing this result, I need scarcely assure you it shall be given. I propose making a tour of inspection in a few days of the defenses referred to, in company with Admiral Buchanan, Capt. Farrand & Gen. Forney, and shall be able, on my return, to give you my precise wants, as to guns. I am satisfied, that, if they can be had, with what you are doing & have, already done for us, that we shall be able to make a defense that will, whatever may be the result, do no discredit to your department. It shall not be my fault, if the people of this State are not fully sensible of the many obligations they are under to you. Very Respy, yr obt Servt

(Signed) J. No Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

P.S. I was gratified to read, in a Rich'd paper, a few days since, a well written article, giving an exposé of what your department had done. I had, somewhat appreciated your position, and was aware how little they were understood by the many who were ignorant of our poverty in every thing which contributes to marine Strength, but I, certainly had not the slightest idea of what you have actually accomplished from such material.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 19th 1862.

Col. C. Gorgas, Chief of Ordnance, Richmond.

Sir, I enclose, herewith, copy letter addressed to me, by Messrs W. G. Clarke & Co. Proprietors of Mobile Advertiser & Register, & Evening News, gentlemen, whose position, as Journalists, gives them large opportunity for observation, and whose character for integrity stamps all their assertions with truth, so far as their observation & remarks extend.

The subject matter of their note has been, to me, one of anxious consideration, and I have used all the means at my Command, to purchase & manufacture Salt for our people, and to encourage, & stimulate its production, wherever it could be made. In the very inception of the State-Enterprise I found myself hindered, by the very circumstances alluded to by Messrs Clarke & Co; the employment of the Foundries, by the Confederate Government, from the difficulties of which, I was indebted to your kindness & courtesy for relief, and had kettles & pans cast for the State-works, upon your order to the Shelby Iron Co. to do so.

I dislike to tax your courtesy further, especially, in view of great necessity of cannon-shot, & shell, for defence against our Enemies; but the question is one of life or death, in either view; without the means and facilities for defence, our means for sustaining life are gone, or rendered useless-without Salt, we must Starve, and our men be incapable of using the means for military duty.

With all the efforts, I have been able to make, at home and abroad, a salt-famine impends over our Citizens; and, almost daily, I have calls for assistance, to procure kettles for the manufacture.

If, in view of these facts, you could, to some extent, relax the orders to our foundries, and permit-even, a limited amount of casting to be done for this purpose, to that extent, at least, it would relieve urgent necessity, and receive the grateful thanks of

Your obt Sert.

(signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Alabama.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 19th, 1862.

Hon. G. W. Randolph, Secretary of War.

Sir, It has been represented to me by a highly respectable gentleman of this State, that Wm. M. McLeroy, private in Co. G Capt. W. W. Meadows, 37th Ala. Vol. Regt Col. J. J. Dowdell, has done but little if any duty since he has been in Camp, having been, a large portion of his time in the Hospital, and now left behind his Regiment, at Saltillo, unfit for duty, and, in the opinion of the Gentleman who informs me (an intelligent gentleman, who is well acquainted with his condition) he is unfit for Camp life.

Under these circumstances, Dr Williams suggests that it would be to the interest of the government to detail him for service, in the Government shops at this place, under Capt Wagner, at this place, as a wood-workman, in which capacity, from my knowledge of my informant, I concur, & respectfully present the same for your consideration.

Very respt'y, Your obt Sert.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. Gov of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Sept 19th 1862.

Maj. W. G. Swanson, Comm'g Camp, Ft. Notasulga, Ala.

Sir, Inclosed, herewith, copy of letter recd from Capt. W. L. Brooks, 100th Regiment, Ala. Militia, declining your refusal to release him from Conscription as a Commissioned officer of Militia. Capt. Brooks stands enrolled as a duly Commissioned officer of the State, & respectfully requests his discharge. If there are any reasons why you would deem it proper to refuse this request, you will please give the reasons, in your reply.

Very respt'y Yours,

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

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Executive Department;
Sept 19th 1862, Montgomery Ala

Hon. J. W. Randolph, Secretary of War, Richmond,

Sir: I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of yours of yesterday, of the 11th inst. enclosing copy of a letter from Majr. D. Markhall, advising your department, that actual & threatened resistance to the execution of the Conscript act, in Randolph County, had been reported to him; and requesting my opinion, as to the best mode of avoiding bloodshed in the execution of the law, with the offer that if in case the State authorities could accomplish this object better than the Confederate officers, you Dept. would furnish any force that might be required, to act as a posse, under the State officers."

I merely beg leave to call your attention to the fact, that the enrollment of persons subject to Conscription has not been committed, so far as Alabama is concerned, to State officers, but that this duty from the Commencement, has been discharged, & directed, solely by Confederate officers, and, under these circumstances, I question the policy of calling in State officers, at this time, merely for the purpose of enforcing it by the more especially as neither the Executive of this State, nor any of that class of officers, are invested with the power of enforcing other than civil laws. Entertaining, however, the firmest conviction as to the policy & necessity of a prompt, rigid, and equal execution of the Conscript law in every part of the State, I am of the opinion that in case there is reasonable ground to believe that the statements reported to Majr. Markhall, are true, a sufficient force should, at once, be ordered out, sufficient to put down resistance, and arrest the ring-leaders. This, I have but little doubt, could be effected without bloodshed; but the law should be enforced, at every hazard. I shall feel it my duty to exert every moral influence to sustain it. I will issue my proclamation, and send a special aid-de-camp with the force that may be sent in order to inculcate submission & obedience, and, if possible, to prevent the shedding of blood, at the same time. But I deem it important, that those who think they can oppose effectual resistance to the law, should understand, clearly & distinctly, that it will be enforced.

Very Respectfully,
Your obt. Servt.
(signed) Jno. Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department;
Montgomery, Ala; Sept. 19th 1862

Messrs. McClung & Jaques, Saltville, Va.

Gentlemen; I am in receipt of your letter of the 8th inst. from Nicholasville, acknowledging the safe arrival of the $10.000 remitted by Cajues, as an advance on your Salt-contract with this State. The statement that you will, very soon, be making Salt for delivery, under this Contract was quite gratifying to me. I have no idea that Congress, or the Legislature of Virginia, either, will interfere with any Contracts, made by States, for the manufacture of Salt, at Saltville, unless it should be on an application, by the States themselves, to secure the just fulfillment of the Contracts, made with them. The Quarter-master of this, has already received thousand 3-bushel-sacks made-up, and they will be sent forward, in a week or two to Saltville, under charge of Capt. Speed, the State-agent, to be filled at your works, & returned. I hope that shipments may soon begin, & be continued regularly, & at the full rate of five hundred bushels a-day. Capt. Speed informed me that you had completed your two furnaces, for the State of Tennessee, but that the two furnaces for this State had not been yet constructed. Mr. Jaques told me, at the time I contracted with him, that so soon as you put up the works for Tennessee, you would construct two separate furnaces for Alabama, which would turn-out two hundred & fifty bushels each, per day; making five hundred bushels. The proposition of Messrs. Stewart & Buchanan & Co. was, that Alabama should have water sufficient to make five hundred bushels, per day, and they are bound to supply it. Upon this consideration agreed-upon, the State assigned & directed the Contract referred to you, and with their knowledge & consent. The subsequent agreement made, by them with the "Alabama Salt Manufacturing Co." had no controlling influence over your Contract, & cause the Contract was with the

was but a duplicate of the one made by you. Knowing that Messrs Stewart Buchanan & Co had to the contract with the Alabama Co, I was cautious not to interfere with the terms made with you, & on that account requested them to "duplicate the contract" with that Company, which, I was entitled to have, they had done. There, therefore, be no just pretense in their refusal to furnish sufficient water to you, to make, for Alabama, the five hundred bushels per day. Much have the case, I was, not a little, surprised to hear that you had made terms with them, for water to make only three hundred bushels per day, for Alabama. It is true, that by the terms of your Contract with me, you were bound to make" from three to five hundred bushels per day." but I was bound to receive" as much as five hundred bushels of Salt per day, and not less than one hundred thousand Bushels, in the aggregate, in any event, should the supply of water, and the Capacity of their furnaces, enable them to manufacture so much." There can be no just ground, as I have shewn, for Messrs Stewart, Buchanan, Co. to refuse the supply of water, and there is, equally, no just reason why you should not use it, as Mr Jaques assured me, that the two furnaces to be erected, would make that much per day. The advance of the ten thousand Dollars was, expressly, made, to enable you to construct the furnaces, & your obligation is to commence active preparations for the manufacture of the Salt, by the erection of necessary furnaces, Shed, &, so soon as the said Shorter shall furnish the sum of ten thousand Dollars, to be used in said erections, conveyance of water to Cistern, &c. You must pardon me for referring in this particular manner, to our contract, and for my earnestness in insisting on the fullest compliance, — both on the part of Messrs Stewart, Buchanan, Co, & yourselves. My duty to the State whose vital interests are so deeply involved, demands it. The question of Salt supply is a most serious one, and whatever may have been secured for the people, by Contracts made, must be fully realized, or public discontent will certainly result. Besides, Candor requires me to say, that information has reached me, that, since the date of the Contract made with you, Mr Jaques had become interested, in some way, as a co-partner with Messrs Stewart Buchanan, Co, & that the Company had agreed to furnish you water at fifty cents per bushel, instead of seventy-five cents the price which, it was understood they charged the State. My impression was, from what Mr Jaques himself said that I was paying, for the State one dollar per bushel for the manufacture of the Salt, and that the balance of the $1.75, went to pay for the water. I shall be gratified to know that I am misinformed, or that whatever may have happened the advantages secured to this State, by the Contract made with you & Stewart, Buchanan, & Co. are to be promptly realized, without Controversy or abatement. And, hoping to hear from you in reply, I am, Gentlemen,

Very Respy Yrs.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. Gov of Alabama

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, Sept 22nd 1862.

Rev J. P. Campbell, Montgomery, Ala.

Dear Sir; Having been advised of the sickness of a large number of Alabama troops, in the Hospitals at Chattanooga, and of your visit to this City, to obtain Contributions for their relief, I have directed Col. W. H. Pickett, A. Q. of Alabama, to ship 200 shirts, 200 pairs of drawers, & 200 pairs of socks to the Hospitals mentioned, to be appropriated to the use & benefit of the sick & wounded Soldiers from this State. I will you to so find as to see that these articles are properly receipted for, and applied to the purpose, herein specified.

In behalf of the people of Alabama, I return you their sincere thanks, for your benevolent & patriotic labors, in aid of their suffering friends in the Confederate Army.

Very Respectfully,
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Gov of Ala.

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Executive Department
Montgomery Ala. Sept 22nd 1862

Hon. S. W. Randolph, Sec of War, Richmond.

Sir, For several months past, citizens of Mississippi, Alabama & the Eastern portion of the Govenor of Florida have been on the Florida Coast, from St. Joseph's bay to Choctawhatchee bay, engaged in making Salt for their own consumption. Recently, the enemy have made a descent upon them, and driven them away, destroying their works, and capturing some of their slaves. Twice have our people been interrupted, and now they have suffered so seriously, that all further attempts at the manufacture of Salt, on that Coast, must be wholly abandoned, unless the Confederate Government can insure protection, by providing a competent force in that locality.

The danger of a Salt-famine is now almost certain, and there is scarcely any misfortune which can befall us, which will produce such wide-spread discontent, and dis-satisfaction. If the destitution could be limited to the people at home who can shift for themselves, it would not be so bad; but the families of our Soldiers far away - many of them helpless & poor - appeal to us in language, which cannot fail to excite our profoundest sympathies. Is there nothing, in your power to do - to protect Salt-makers on the Coast mentioned? I do suppose three hundred mounted men could do it, and, at the same time, intercept Deserters & Slaves seeking communication with the Enemy.

Respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 22d 1862

Capt. Chas. L. Lienur, Chief of Engineers, Mobile.

Sir, Your letter of 19th reached me yesterday. I approve, most heartily, the purpose of the commanding General, to strengthen the defenses of Fort Morgan, and will contribute any thing in my power to aid in the accomplishment of such an important work. Orders have, already, been issued to press 100 Negro-Laborers, according to your request, to be forwarded, by Rail-Road to Mobile, and to be reported to you at the earliest possible day. The number will be raised as follows, 25 from Montgomery - 25 from Butler - & 50 from Lowndes.

Orders for the 100 hands, for Choctaw and Green Bluffs, respectively, had been issued before the receipt of your Telegram, for the 100 for Fort Morgan, & the numbers will be raised as follows - 25 from Montgomery, Autauga, Dallas, & Wilcox each, who will be sent down the Alabama River to Choctaw-Bluff, and 25 each, from Pickens, Tuscaloosa, Greene, & Choctaw Counties, who will be sent down the River to Green-Bluff. As the orders are distinct & specific, there will be no conflict, & I hope, shall see that all will be filled, at an early day.

Respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 22, 1862

Messrs L. H. Johnston, & Co. Eufaula, Ala.

Gentlemen, I have selected your Warehouse, as a depository for salt to be distributed to the Counties of Barbour - Henry & Dale. You will report account sales to Col. Wm R. Pickett, A.D.C. of Alabama, in this city. The first Shipment - ordered to-day - is of 200 bushels, from the works of Hughes, Anderson & Co. You will deliver it, on receipt of the money & order of the Judge of Probate, or County - Commissioners of Barbour, Henry & Dale - 100 Bushels for Barbour - 50 bushels for Henry - & 50 bushels for Dale. The remaining 200 are purchased for Dale, i.e. the 50 bushels have already been furnished that County from the Depository here. You will notify the Judges of Probate of each of these three Counties, respectively, on the arrival of the salt, and notify them that it is ready for delivery, at your Warehouse, on a proper order, accompanied with the money. The salt is furnished here, at $2.25 per bushel, cash. You will receive into

expenses from this place, so as to cover cost + charges to the State. You will be allowed storage + commissions usual for your trouble if you think proper to charge it — which other Agents receive. The Salt is shipped in sacks from the works, the Sacks contents waste some by shipping, but as they start with 2 bushels each of Salt, and are paid for by the State, purchasers must take them as they arrive, and in this way only, can the loss be equitably distributed. I enclose you Copies of Salt Circulars, from which you will comprehend my plans; one of which is to devote to the indigent families of Soldiers, all the Salt from high Water and charges. It is paid from the Treasury, and distributed, free of charge, to the recipients, through the County Commissioners. I hope, in a few weeks, to obtain other Salt for shipment to you for general distribution, under such Directions, as may be hereafter given. The supply however, will be very small and I will, from necessity, have to be sold in small quantities, so all can share in the benefit. I fear we are to have a Salt famine. I have Contracts, in Virginia for 150,000 bushels, but, under the most favorable circumstances, cannot hope to receive it all, before February or March. The Salt Makers, in Clarke + Washington Counties, Alabama, are turning out about 2000 bushels per day. The State works which I am erecting in Clarke, cannot get in boiling, under two or three weeks yet, but we expect to make 500 bushels per day, when we start.

Resp'y Yrs.
(Signed) Jn° Gill Shorter, Gov° of Ala:

Executive Department;
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 22d 1862

Peter Hamilton Esq: Mobile.

Dear Sir, I enclose you, herewith, two other accounts, which have been presented and paid by me, at the Treasury, for blacksmithing sent down to Mobile, to work on the Ram. As the others were paid, according to terms of Contract by the State Agent, + the owners of the men — Pat. Joshua, + Oliver were provided the same, I could make no discrimination. You will please remit the amount to be refunded to the Treasury, by some safe private hand - coming up. or pay it over to Gen° Green, who will receipt, in my name, on the accounts enclosed. I expect to visit Mobile, the latter part of the week.

Very Resp'y Yrs.
(Signed) Jn° Gill Shorter.

Executive Department;
Montgomery, Ala: Sept° 22d, 1862.

Major Ezekiel Watford, Big-Creek, Ala.

Dear Sir; I am in receipt of your letter of 17th inst; and, as our Militia could not, under my orders, act within the limits of the State of Florida, for the protection of the Salt-makers upon the Coast, I have deemed the matter of sufficient importance to address the Secretary of War upon the subject, and requested him to order a mounted force to the Coast, for that purpose.

The State has but a small amount of ammunition, but I feel, I am ready, at all times, to distribute that for the protection of our citizens, when it can be done, with an assurance of its proper application to purposes of defense. I would recommend to you, for this end, to organize a Home Guard, under my Proclamation of last Spring; upon the report of the formation of which, Commissions will issue to the officers, and, upon their requisition, a proper quantity of ammunition could be issued.

Respectfully

Yours,

(Signed) Jn° Gill Shorter.

Governor of Alabama.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 23rd 1862

To His Excellency- Joseph E. Brown, Governor of Georgia

Sir, In view of the rapid approach of Winter high waters in our rivers, and danger of invasion by the enemy, from the Gulf, fleet, in command of Chagres, much solicitude for the early completion of our river defences. We have had many negroes at work, on the Alabama & Tombigbee rivers, building batteries, but fail to make them strong enough to resist the Yankee vessels. Our Engineers have been furnished, and all expenditures made, as they should have been, by the Confederate Government.

I desire, now, to confer with you, as to the condition of the defences for the Chattahoochie river, and to be informed of any plans which the Confederate Government may have in contemplation for the protection of that river. A convention of Delegates from Counties bordering on the river, from the States of Georgia, Alabama, & Florida, recently assembled in Eufaula, and are making arrangements to raise, by voluntary subscription, if required, a force of negro laborers, to construct any works which may be recommended by competent Engineers. A copy of these proceedings, I doubt not, has been communicated to you, if not formally presented. I beg to renew to you my unwilling need desire to co-operate with you, in any way deemed proper to secure, at the earliest day possible, the efficient protection of our people, in the Valley of the Chattahoochie; and with the renewed assurances of my personal esteem & regard, I am, respectfully

Your Obedient Servant
(Signed) John Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 24th 1862.

Capt. Nelson Pennell, Morgan Co. Ala.

Sir, I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 19th inst. by the hand of Mr Peck. Your report is highly satisfactory, and I am gratified that, with the limited resources in your power, you have been able to render the State such efficient service, through your Command. I beg to extend to officers & men - my grateful thanks, for their heroic conduct, & for the many sacrifices they have made, in the cause of our afflicted country. & You report that the Company have some property to dispose of, (from the Enemy), & some stock taken for use, from men who turned traitors, & went to the Yankees, & you ask, "what must be done with them?" I answer;

1. As to the property taken from the Enemy. The act of Congress, of April 21st 1862, entitled "An act to organize bands of Partizan-rangers," provides, in the 5th sect. "that for any arms & munitions of War, captured from the Enemy, by any band of Partizan-rangers, and delivered to any Quartermaster, at such place or places, as may be designated by a Commanding General, the Rangers shall be paid their full value, as the Secretary of War may prescribe." You will observe that the act says "Arms or munitions of War"; & these, when captured by Rangers, and turned over to the Government, are paid for by the Government to the troops making the Capture. In other cases, all the property taken from the public enemy, belongs to the Government, and is appropriated, without compensation to the troops who capture it. But Partizan Rangers get pay for "munitions of War," but not for any other kind of Property taken. What particular kind of property fall under the term "munitions of war"; is not distinctly defined; but, in general, it embraces whatever materials are used in War, for defence, or for annoying an enemy. It includes guns of all kinds, ammunition, provisions, stores of all kinds, tents, wagons & teams, and, in fact, every thing which the enemy have provided for the purpose of maintaining, or moving, or protecting, their army, or of inflicting injury upon their adversary. This definition will embrace all horses, used in forts & the organization of your Company, under the act of the State Legislature, approved Nov. 22nd 1861, conforms to the Act of Congress above mentioned, and the rules & regulations of Partizans, in the Confederate Service, with respect to their Compensation, & to pay - allowances &c, are fixed & certain. It follows, therefore, that the Company will be entitled to receive, from the State the value of such arms & munitions of War" taken by them from the Enemy, & turned over to the State.

Claiget no outstanding liens from him and every but upon report to you possession "some property taken from the enemy"; and enquire what disposition shall be made of it? You do not send any inventory of this property, but may be informs me that it refers to horses. Now, as the State has no use for such property, and will have to pay your command the value of it if turned over to the State, I propose to relinquish to the Company all claim to this property by the State, and that the Company retain & dispose of the same on their own account in such mode, as may be agreeable to themselves. This proposition, I presume, will be acceptable to them, and will relieve both you and the State, from all trouble about the matter.

2. As to Stokes taken for ride, from men who turned traitors, and joined the enemy.

The rules of civilized warfare require, that private property, whether it belong to friend or foe, found in the army, or in the of the Enemy, must be paid for at its fair value. Hence the indignation of our Government and people, on account of the depredations, committed by our unscrupulous foe, upon the private property, & rights of our citizens. Such a practice, denounced by the laws of Nations, can be met only by the just Law of retaliation. But retaliation cannot restore property taken, or destroyed and is resorted to as a means of punishment, calculated to impress the enemy, & deter him from further pillage. Early in this war, the Lincoln Government indicated its purpose to seize & confiscate the property of our citizens, and, to meet this purpose, the confederate Congress passed the "sequestration law." Under this law, all property of alien Enemies within our limits, is to be seized, and the proceeds to be held for distribution to our own citizens, whose property may be confiscated by the Lincoln government. I have to advise, therefore, as to private property taken from traitors in our midst, who have joined the Enemy, that you turn it over to the receiver, under the Sequestration Law, who resides in Huntsville. If any of such property condisted of Commissary supplies, you will make out duplicate inventories of the same, shewing the owner, the articles quantity & value, and certify & forward them to this Department. I have to dissent from your suggestion to disband your Company, at this time. To do so, with the lights before me, would be premature, in my opinion. The Enemy are still in force beyond the Alabama line, on the Memphis & Charleston Rail-Road, and we cannot anticipate their movements. Besides, I think that your command may render good service as police guards in the Valley, in preserving public order, and aiding our citizens, in their Efforts to recover their run-away Slaves, and other property which the Enemy may have taken from them & left in the Country. It is the duty of the State to give all possible protection to the property of its citizens; and, in aid of this purpose, you are instructed to use your Command to seize & restore to the citizens of the State, in your vicinity, all property which may have been taken from them by the Enemy, and now remaining within the limits of your Command. When the owner and the property can be identified by the affidavit of the owner, and other satisfactory proof, this will be a satisfactory duty to perform. If cases of controversy arise, it will be best to decline interference, and allow the question of right to be determined by the Courts, unless a frivolous claim be set-up, in which event, you will disregard it. In this connection, I remark, that the right of the citizen to the recovery of his property is not lost or affected, even if it has been rescued from the Enemy by the Rangers, and he is entitled to receive it, without pay or reward, for its capture & return.

The 7th Sect of the act, under which your Company was organized, provides" that the Captains of the Companies, raised under this act shall act as Paymasters for their respective Companies, giving such bond as the Governor may direct"

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Judge Goldthwaite, the Adjutant-General, is absent, and I cannot ascertain whether you Executed a bond or not; and, in such uncertainty, I have caused a bond to be prepared, and, herewith, enclose it, for due Execution & return, in accordance with the directions given to Mr Peck.

I have sent the funds by Mr Peck, — who has receipted, in your name at the Treasury — to pay the Officers & Men of your Company, & for Quarter-Master, & Commissary-Stores.

Very respectfully, Yr obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Govr of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept. 26th 1862

N. S. Graham Esq, Saltville, Va.

Dear Sir, Your letter, of the 15th inst, by the hands of Capt. Speed, asking for an additional advance of $. 10.000, to the Alabama Salt-manufacturing Co, came, duly. The amount will be forwarded, by him, to you as requested. I hope you may have better success than you seem to apprehend. Please send me, by mail, a copy of your Contract with Mess. Stewart, Buchanan & Co. Capt. Speed will forward your receipt for the $. 10.000, given in the name of the Company.

Yours, Resp'y,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Sept. 26th 1862.

Capt. Joseph H. Speed,

Dear Sir, Your letter of 19th inst, from Marion, enclosing one from N. S. Graham Esq, was duly received. Up to this writing, I have received no letter from the Secretary of War, in reply to the one I wrote him as to your resignation — and to-day, I leave for Mobile. + I leave a letter, which I wish you to take to Mr Graham. You will call on the State-Treasurer, for the $. 10.000, which I have advanced to his Company; take it on to him at Saltville, and, on delivery, cause him to fill up-date & sign the enclosed receipt, which you will then return, by mail, to me. + The Treasurer will, also, pay you $. 5.000, which you will receive, as assistant Quarter-master, and take with you, for payment of freights, and other charges, incidental to your agency. He will pay you, also, $. 300, on your own account, with which you will credit the State, on your pay account.

Col. Joseph H. Bradford, who is now absent in the service of the State, and who went, as an agent of the State to Salt-ville, some months since, without compensation, informs me that he has about twenty sacks of Salt at Saltville, which he has secured, for his own family-supply. In consideration of his services to the State, you are instructed to ship his Salt in the first car-load, from Montgomery, at our charges for freight on the same. + I had hoped to have seen you again, in person; I wish you to send me copies of the Contracts made by Mess. McClung & Jaques, and by "The Alabama Salt-manufacturing Company," & by Mr McFarlane, & any other Alabamians, with Mess. Stewart, Buchanan & Co. The letter from Mess. McClung & Jaques, I opened, by mistake, not noticing the address to you. Mr Taylor will show you a letter from them to me; and Dr Waddell will show you, on his Record-book, a copy of a letter written by me to them, before the receipt of their letter. I shall wait for an answer to mine before I write them again; & when I write, will send it through you, so you may be kept fully advised. + I herewith, furnish you a copy of the contract made with "the Alabama Salt-manufacturing Co." You will make the best-possible arrangements for the transportation of the Salt, as to terms, & promptness of shipment; and report each shipment to this Department, while you forward a duplicate receipt to the Consignees. I regret that I am unable, as yet, to give you the names of the State-agents in the North-Alabama Counties. So soon as I can do so, they will be forwarded. The shipments, to Montgomery, will be made to Col. W. C. Rickett, A. Q. Mr. He has a large number of Sacks, for you to take on with you, and you will report the costs & charges, on the shipments of Sacks, to be embraced in our estimate of prices.

Yours, Resp'y,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.